

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LVI.]

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BIRTHS.

On the 4th November, at Swatow, the wife of V. J. McLOUGHLIN, of a daughter.

On the 15th November, at 3, Chusan Road, Shanghai, the wife of J. DALTON, I.M.C., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 19th November, at Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., FREDERICK ALEXANDER, son of WILLIAM ALEXANDER CUMMING, of Lloyds, London, to ALICE MABEL, youngest daughter of the late R. A. JAMIESON, M.D., of Shanghai.

On the 22nd November, at Saint John's Cathedral Hongkong, by the Rev. F. T. Johnson, M.A., JAMES DURRAN, second son of W. S. AULD, of Durrans, Caithness-shire, N.B., to ANNIE, second daughter of the late ALEXANDER CAMPBELL, of Thurso, Caithness-shire, N.B.

On the 22nd November, at S. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, WILLIAM FRANK HARLEY, to ETHEL, eldest daughter of RODERICK FRASER, of Herne Hill, London.

On the 24th November, at Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., SPENCER ALLEN DEACON, third son of the late ALBERT DEACON, of Briggins Park, Ware, Herts., to CATHERINE CECILIA HICKEY, of Sacramento, U.S.A.

On the 25th November, at the Union Church, Hongkong, by the Rev. C. H. Hickling, WILLIS O. A. SHEPHERD, to FLORENCE HAMILTON.

At the Union Church, Yokohama, by the Rev. E. S. Booth, D.D., and before the U.S. Consul-General, Dr. FREDERICK ALEXANDER ROBINSON, of Shanghai, to MARY EMMA, youngest daughter of GEORGE and ELIZABETH SETTLE, of Philadelphia, U.S. of America.

DEATHS.

On the 13th November, at Foochow, CHARLES GRAY, of the Chinese Imperial Postal Service, aged 37 years.

On the 19th November, at Tsingkiangpu, HENRY CARTER, the only son of the Rev. JAMES BLAIR and MARGARET HUNTINGTON COCHRAN, aged two years.

On the 23rd November, at 7.15 a.m., at the Government Civil Hospital, Dr. CHUNG KING U, aged 36 years, deeply regretted.

Hongkong Weekly Press

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ARRIVALS OF MAIL.

The Canadian mail of the 16th October arrived, per the C.P.R. steamer *Empress of Japan*, on the 25th November (40 days); the German mail of the 28th October arrived, per N.D.L. steamer *Bayern*, on the 27th November (30 days); the American mail of the 30th October arrived, per T.K.K. steamer *America Maru* on the 28th November (29 days); and the French mail of the 31st October arrived, per M.M. steamer *Tonkin*, on the 30th November (30 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

It is reported from North China that N. w. chwang, Tientsin, Taku, Yinko and Shanhai-kwan will probably be closed by ice early this month.

St. Petersburg telegrams state that in consequence of M. de Witte's tour, Dalny will become the terminus of the main line of the Manchurian Railway instead of Port Arthur.

It is rumoured, says our London correspondent, that Sir Ernest Satow has been summoned home to England for the purpose of a conference which is likely to have important consequences.

President Roosevelt has declared that in no other oriental country, whether ruled by Asiatics or by Europeans, is there anything approaching the amount of individual liberty and self-government that the Filipinos now enjoy.

The Shanghai evacuation question has at last been settled. On the 22nd ult., the Japanese garrison left for home. The Germans had previously received orders to prepare for evacuation, and their commander was ordered to confer with the British and French commanders with regard to the joint withdrawal, but as the latter had on their part received no orders matters had advanced no farther. On the 27th ult., the French commander received similar orders; and on the evening of the 28th we had from our Shanghai correspondent the following telegram:—"The British garrison has received orders to evacuate Shanghai on the 20th December." Thus the end of a tedious matter seems to have been reached.

L'Écho de Chine of the 18th ult. says that owing to the reports of Messrs. Etienne, Benvalot, and Deloncle, the colonial group of the French Chamber, the Siamese treaty has been unanimously rejected. But from other sources it is said that the attacks of the French colonial politicians upon M. Delcassé's treaty with Siam have proved vain so far. M. Delcassé neither intends to resign nor voluntarily to withdraw the treaty. A decision of the French Chamber of Deputies is only expected in January. Notwithstanding, a hot fight is ensuing already as to the question of M. Delcassé's successor, according to a Berlin telegram. It seems that the prospects of M. Hanotaux are not very favourable, but that the former Governor-General of Indo-China, M. Doumer, or M. Etienne will have better prospects.

Señor Ramon Pena has been appointed Spanish Minister at Peking.

We learn from Macao that the prepared opium tax stations in the vicinity of the port were removed a few days ago.

The French steamer *Enseigne Henri*, 250 tons, was wrecked on the 21st ult. between Chefoo and Weihaiwei. The passengers and crew were saved; mails partly lost.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain, in reply to Mr. Henniker-Heaton in the House of Commons, said that from enquiries which had been made, he was satisfied that a British Post Office in Peking was unnecessary.

M. Pelletan has submitted General Voyron's confidential report about the "Boxer" disturbances to the French Budget Committee, with authority to use passages relative to the part played by the missionaries.

The Russian cruiser *Djigit*, which is to join the squadron on this station, will not come direct to the Far East, but will call at the Cape and then go on to Australia. She will make the greater part of her voyage under sail.

In the House of Commons on the 24th ult. Mr. Labouchere asked whether there were any secret clauses attached to the Anglo-Japanese Treaty and whether any pledges or assurances were given which are unknown to Parliament. Lord Cranborne replied in an evasive manner.

The *Universal Gazette* hears that Wu Ting-fang, the retiring Chinese Minister at Washington, has been instructed from Peking to visit Japan on the way home, with the view of reporting on diplomatic relations, school affairs and other matters that have been the subject of consideration at the two capitals recently.

A telegram dated Seoul, November 18th, says: It is reported that the Korean authorities are negotiating for a loan in Russia, a ginseng monopoly and a gold mine being offered as security. The amount of the loan is reported to be ten million roubles. Negotiations are progressing between Mr. Ginsburg and Ye Yok at present.

The *Osaka Mainichi* reports that the alleged plot to damage the Imperial train at Otake station is now reported to have been without foundation. A letter regarding the alleged plot was received, but it was the work of some party who sought to cause trouble to the Chief of the Police Station at Otake, who, it appears, is very unpopular. The discovery of explosives on the track is denied. Although a great sensation was caused at the time the matter will be settled without any serious trouble to the local authorities after all.

With reference to the two death sentences ordered by Imperial edict in connection with the Chengchow affair, the *Japan Mail* says:—Assuredly from the point of view of protection for foreign life and property in China, we can not question the expediency of the sentence. But it is impossible to avoid the reflection that the situation created in China is one which demands measures not in accord with the judicial principles observed in Europe. Captains and Generals in the Occident are not decapitated for neglect of duty under such circumstances. More and more is China becoming a perplexing problem. More and more is the sword becoming the arbiter of all complications there.

IMPERIAL DEFENCE.

(Daily Press, 25th November.)

The question of Imperial defence is one that must of necessity attract a great deal of attention from all classes of the community in future, and is of course of the deepest interest to all British Colonies. It is a question bristling with difficulties, and will require statesmanship and circumspection to place it on a footing satisfactory to the nation. No objection can be taken to the attitude of our present Prime Minister on the subject. He has accepted responsibility and has admitted that the matter cannot, as of old, be left to one or two departments acting separately to the great danger of the state and the confusion of our defensive policy and preparations. Mr. BALFOUR has also declared that the Government is fully alive to the difficulty of the problem which it means to meet and grapple with to the best of its ability. No one will for a moment doubt that Mr. BALFOUR was perfectly sincere in all he said, but something more than words will be required to satisfy the many thinking minds which are now studying the matter, and unfortunately the public has been put off in the past, far too often, by ministerial eloquence. First of all we must protest with all our strength against the pernicious doctrine attempted to be set up by Mr. BRODRICK, "that it is our duty to consider the possibility of temporary failure of the Navy to keep the Channel clear." This simply means that Mr. BRODRICK wants to direct money from Naval purposes to the Army. It is our duty to keep our fleet in such a state of strength and preparedness that there shall never be any question of our ability to keep the Channel clear. This is a vital condition, and the condition on which our existence as an Empire depends. Sea power all over the world is the first and most vital condition of the continued existence of the British Empire. Mr. BALFOUR may indulge in scornful remarks on what he is pleased to consider the extreme naval school. If there is such a school, let himself and his colleagues expose and tear to shreds its mistaken views and show that the Government is solely guided by the light of reason, not by party traditions.

One of the first needs of Imperial defence is an efficient Intelligence branch, a department for the Navy. How do we stand? There are fifteen officers employed in the Intelligence Department of the British Navy and the cost of the Department is £10,629 per annum. The last Naval Estimates amounted to over £32,000,000. The Intelligence Department of the German Navy employs eighteen officers and the total estimated expenditure for the current year on the German Navy is a little over £10,000,000 sterling. That is to say that Germany employs more brains in the proportion of eighteen to fourteen for Intelligence purposes than we do, though our requirements are infinitely greater. It is possible that the cheese-paring tendencies of the Treasury may be the cause; if not that, what can it be? Practical naval officers at the Admiralty, who know what accurate intelligence means, would not be likely to send off or curtail the supply which money can procure, unless pressure was exercised from somewhere.

The pages of *Naval Administrations 1827 to 1892*, by Sir JOHN HENRY BRIGGS, who was for many years Chief Clerk of the Admiralty, throw a curious light on the inner working of the Admiralty which will no doubt be duly noted by students of naval defence. History clearly indicates

that for the last two hundred years Great Britain has always exhibited an astonishing unreadiness for war, though constantly involved in hostilities. The late Boer war has accentuated the fact with regard to the Army. Heaven help us if the same should prove true of the Navy! The great consoling fact brought out by the war is that the spirit of the race has not degenerated, raw recruits and youthful subalterns having exhibited the most splendid courage under all circumstances, so that we may be certain our raw material is of the first quality, only lacking training and instruction on national lines. Fortunately there is no divergence of opinion between the responsible officers of the Navy and the Army as to the respective duties of each service in the matter of defence. The great stumbling block is the War Office, with its benumbing traditions and out-of-date procedure, its commissions and committees of enquiry that never settle anything, and its carefully built up possibility of fooling Parliament and the public on any given subject by red tape and circumlocution. Take the remount question as a recent instance, or our own Jubilee Road—a small matter, but significant. No blame can be attached to individuals, for every soldier can plead the first canon of Military discipline, "Orders must be obeyed"—under all circumstances. Besides, the blame does not rest with the soldier element so much as with the traditions of party government and a procedure in an age and state of society now happily numbered among the things that were. Still the cumbrous War Office remains with its lamentable tale of failure and unreadiness. Let us hope that the efforts now being made will result in placing it on an up-to-date footing, and that never again will it have to hear the reproach of such a thing as the famous telegram "Unmounted men preferred."

A writer in the *Quarterly Review* for August has remarked "that the defects which the South African War has shown to have existed in the Army are all found to a great degree in the Navy and that our Naval organisation exhibits the same want of clearly defined responsibility as our Military, if indeed it be not actually worst. There is no General Staff in which power and responsibility go hand in hand; there is, however, the same vicious arrangement of an Intelligence Department divorced from authority and starved. Every precaution, indeed, seems to have been taken to prevent its views reaching the Cabinet. The head of the Department communicates them to the First Sea Lord, the First Sea Lord passes them on to the First Lord, and the First Lord, who has no expert knowledge, in turn places them, if he feels so disposed, before the Prime Minister." Now that sort of thing is not conducive to Imperial defence and, if true, should be remedied at once—a matter no doubt easier said than done. But we have Admiral Lord CHARLES BERESFORD, Captain PERCY SCOTT, and a few more like them coming on, and these patriotic men must and will be backed up by the people in their efforts to set matters right, in spite of all official snubs and cold shouldering. All honour to His Majesty the King who has shown very conclusively what he thinks of such men as Captain PERCY SCOTT.

One of the greatest misfortunes of the naval profession is the diversity of opinion while prevails in the higher ranks on almost every possible subject. At the United Service Institution in an open discussion it is hardly possible for one distinguished naval officer to propound anything without being flatly contradicted

by another and no reasonable argument put forward; and we have heard old salts give as the reason an old saying of seamen, "different ships different fashions," which probably does not apply to the routine which is the same in all British men-of-war, but to the different train of thought engendered by the leading minds in different vessels. Lord CHARLES BERESFORD resigned his seat on the Admiralty Board on the question of the strength of the fleet and the determined opposition he encountered to his proposal for proper war organisation, and time has always proved his views correct so far.

The Navy League has been attacked by German journals and speakers on the charge that it is creating ill-will between Germany and England. The Navy League as a matter of fact has never sought to accentuate differences between England and her neighbours, but simply to set forth facts as they are, and there is now no doubt that whatever may be the personal inclinations of the German Emperor and his Government, the disposition of the German people is exceedingly hostile to England; they have in fact thrown down the glove to us, to judge by Mr. E. T. MEYER's pamphlet entitled *Los Von England* ("Enough of England"), at which most people will laugh as not representing real German feeling; but the warning will not be forgotten or pooh-poohed because the writer is often incorrect and given to wild exaggeration. Nothing more damaging to the good feeling between the two nations has been written for years. Still it furnishes another reason for a proper system of Imperial defence and for the establishment of a naval dockyard on the North-Eastern coasts and the equipment of a permanent North Sea squadron. Doubtless our statesmen have a very fair appreciation of the situation of Germany like a nut between the crackers and will play the cards accordingly; but forewarned is forearmed, and we can never tell what complications may arise.

SIR ERNEST SATOW'S VISIT TO ENGLAND.

(Daily Press, 26th November.)

According to the telegram from our London correspondent, dated Sunday morning, the 23rd instant, it is rumoured that Sir ERNEST SATOW has been summoned home to England for the purpose of attending "a conference which is likely to have important results." The statement is sufficiently vague to mean almost anything. It has been known for some time that Sir ERNEST SATOW was going home on leave as soon as could conveniently be arranged, but to those outside diplomatic circles, at least, no special significance was attached to his visit to England. It was thought that, but for the difficulty in connection with China's attitude over the Chengchow massacre, the British Minister would by this time have been well on his way home for a holiday. If the rumour alluded to by our correspondent be correct, there is something more than the need for rest after an exceptionally arduous term of office at Peking. What this may be, it is at present only possible to guess. The evacuation of Shanghai began on Saturday last, but only the Japanese have left. We were notified by REUTER on the 7th instant that the details of the conditions were to be left for subsequent settlement. It is only reasonable to suppose that if Sir ERNEST SATOW is to attend a conference at home on the subject of affairs in China, the Yangtze question, raised again by Germany and France a few weeks ago, will at least be accorded some

attention. We have already expressed our opinion, which is shared by the whole of the Anglo-Chinese Press, we think, that the attempt to raise the Yangtze question now is not only unnecessary, since the integrity of the Yangtze Valley has already been guaranteed, but is also animated by an unfriendly spirit toward Great Britain. We have suggested that there is revealed one more instance of the Chinese love of playing off one Power against another, for we are loth to think that Germany deliberately set about to undermine the position of Great Britain, her avowed ally. It is difficult to see what "conditions" for the evacuation of Shanghai are let for the subsequent settlement of which REUTER speaks.

If, as is stated, Sir ERNEST SATOW is to attend a conference in London, it is to be trusted that the British Government will take the opportunity of being enlightened on various points in connection with its policy in China. In His Majesty's present Minister at Peking they will find one who has represented his country with more credit than any of his recent predecessors, the only one of late years, in fact, who appears to have grasped the situation. He went to Peking after a considerable period of declining prestige for Great Britain in China. During his brief term of office so far he has struggled manfully, and not without some success, to restore his country's name. He seems to have recognised that Britain's status in China was and is in grave peril of being lost. That Sir ERNEST SATOW will impress this on the minds of the responsible Ministers at home, if the chance be given him, we have some reason for trusting. The question of British influence in China may be divided into three parts, corresponding to three sections of China. There is the North, where by the natural course of events, aided by the entire absence of any intelligible or consistent British policy for many years past, Britain plays a very small part, and Russia is the absolutely predominant nation. There is the Central or Yangtze region, where Britain has always held the hegemony, and only recently has a claimant been found to dispute the "sphere of influence," which was so much talked about in the days of China's loss of Port Arthur and Kiaochau. Lastly, there is the South (which means here Canton and the West River) where the position of Hongkong gives such natural advantages that the leading place among the foreign nations concerned in this region can only be lost by a long course of apathy. It is full time that the British Government should consider intelligently, as it has never done before, its policy with regard to the Chinese Empire. What is now wanted is consolidation of our position and a determination to resist aggressions, open or covert. Did other Powers make the spirit of their policy agree with the letter of their assurances, we might continue without much loss in the old careless and irrational way. But several other Powers are very wide-awake to the opportunities offered to them by British supineness, and even the best framed conventions are susceptible of various interpretations. Therefore an understanding at home on the China question, or collection of questions, as it would be more correct to say, is earnestly to be hoped for.

Mr. Carl Bremr, of Messrs. Fraser, Farley & Co., is reported by Japanese papers just to hand to have been arrested and detained in Nagishi prison, in connection with the charges against Mr. Le Provost.

THE CURRENCY TROUBLE.

(Daily Press, 29th November.)

Some months ago we drew attention to the very serious injury certain to be inflicted on the trade of China, especially that portion conducted with foreign countries, owing to the want of understanding on the part of the nations interested of the effects likely to be brought about by the demand for silver by the Chinese Government, in order to meet the payments due on account of the indemnities. China, we pointed out, was then practically the only nation continuing to hold on to a silver currency; and we showed how the placing of the large amounts of silver thus required on the already glutted silver markets of the world would of necessity result in a continual decline in the already discredited metal. Since that time the silver market has followed the lines shadowed out; and the ordinary rate of exchange has fallen some twenty to twenty-five per cent., with an enormous increase of the difficulties which then were strangling the import trade. The only method that seemed practical for the adjustment of these difficulties would be the gradual substitution of gold for silver currency, and we suggested that as a beginning the import duties should be made payable in gold; while every means should be taken by removing the impediments that then stood in the way of the export trade, and by encouraging the opening of gold mines, to aid the process. These suggestions were practically scouted on all sides. The local merchant would not hear of the fixing of the duties on a gold basis—which would, as we pointed out, have the tendency of automatically removing the unwonted disturbance in the finances on the occasion of any serious alteration in the rate of exchange—because he feared that the burden on his imports would be increased to an unbearable extent; yet, inconsistently, he was prepared to increase artificially the burden by more than doubling the duties to be paid in silver. Possibly even the most bigotted bimetalist would now be disposed to allow that the apparent drop in the import duties brought about by the reduced value of silver has been dearly purchased at the expense of the present very serious condition of the trade. As if this neglect were not sufficient, we actually find that the Chief Commissioner sent out by the British Government to assist in alleviating the burdens on commerce has lent his countenance to an export tariff far more burdensome than the present, and that should the scale and methods to which he has acceded for the purpose of still further afflicting the trade in exports ever come into practice, the difficulties that at present affect the import trade will be further brought into being to hamper the export. It may be quite true that the export duties of a nation are its own concern, and that primarily it is the first and most direct loser by blocking the export of its superfluous productions; and did China have no engagements abroad, and were she in a position to meet her debts, doubtless the argument would be irrefragable. This is however not the case; this has been acknowledged in all the proposals for raising the tariff, and it would only have been the act of a financier able to see beyond the point of his nose, to insist that before he permitted himself to enter into such negotiations he would have secured the power necessary to free the general trade from the imminent danger of strangulation which now it has to face. In a wholesome condition of trade China would pay her foreign indebtedness by the export of her

superfluous goods, of which she has plenty and to spare, only requiring a little encouragement to remove the not unnatural hesitation of her own people, who know but too well from the past that their own Government lays a pitfall in each transaction. The natural, indeed necessary, outcome of this utter want of confidence on the part of the producer is that, failing a wholesome export trade, the Chinese Government has to pay its indebtedness in hard sycee; and this sycee has to be exported in bulk to a market where it ceases to be money, and has already become a drug. The effects of this condition is first felt at Tientsin, which at the moment is hopelessly bankrupt, owing to the drain of silver having exhausted the life-blood of the trade. When there exists actually in the exchange market a difference of upwards of twenty per cent. between the two adjacent markets of Shanghai and Tientsin it is not difficult to see that affairs have reached a point where wholesome trade is actually impossible. This is unfortunately the condition at the moment. It is quite possible excessive trading might have led to a revulsion in any case; but it is equally certain that the want of any capacity for finance on the part of all the governments concerned is at bottom responsible for the worst part of the trouble.

NANKING'S TRADE, 1899-1901.

(Daily Press, 27th November.)

Among the Consular reports recently issued by the British Foreign Office is one on the trade of Nanking for the three years 1899, 1900, and 1901. Nanking is a place with a curious history among the Treaty ports, and we therefore take the liberty of quoting the opening paragraph of the report of Mr. Acting-Consul WILKINSON in its entirety. "On May 1, 1899, Nanking was formally 'opened to foreign trade and the Imperial Maritime Customs established at the port. 'Strictly speaking, Nanking has been a 'treaty port for over 40 years. It was 'opened to foreign commerce under Clause 'VI of the French Treaty of 1858, but, 'being in the possession at the time 'of the Taping rebels, it was impossible 'for merchants to avail themselves of 'their treaty rights. In 1865, after the 'retaking of the city by the Imperial 'troops, a commission was sent by the 'British and French Governments to inquire 'into the trading possibilities of the place, 'but the report was evidently unfavourable, 'for, beyond the selection of a site for a 'foreign settlement, no steps were taken to 'have the port formally opened. The subsequent fate of this settlement is somewhat mysterious. A dispute between the 'commission and the local authorities as to 'the conditions under which the site was 'to be handed over led to the transfer of 'the negotiations to Peking. No solution, 'however, of the difficulty seems to have 'been arrived at the capital until, in 1875, 'the question was finally settled by the 'supposed disappearance of the settlement 'which, it was reported, had been washed 'away by the river. At the present day 'the greater part, if not the whole, of the 'old site is still above water, and would in 'many ways make a more suitable settlement than the locality which has now been 'chosen for the purpose by the local officials. After this the question of opening 'the port to all appearances was dropped, 'until, under the Revised Yangtze Regulations of 1899, China undertook to establish 'a custom-house at Nanking.' The present importance of Nanking, Mr. WILKINSON says, is due rather to the fact that it is the

centre of the provincial administration and the scene of the triennial examinations than to the extent of its trade. Nevertheless, in spite of the fact that it was almost left a desert after the Taiping rebellion (its walls, of twenty-five miles' circumference, still enclose an area only partly inhabited, with ruined buildings scattered among the cultivated fields), Nanking had already regained a certain measure of its former great prosperity at the date of the opening of the port. The nearness of Shanghai and the easy communication therewith made the Nanking people familiar with foreign goods, of which the import was already considerable in 1899. "With trade in such a healthy state," says the Consular report, "it is not surprising that the Customs' returns have been encouraging from the first."

To come to actual figures, in 1899, for the eight months from May 1 to December 31, the gross value of the trade amounted to £355,068; in 1900, the year of the troubles by which business was seriously affected, the value rose to £574,694; and in 1901 it again increased to £684,915. These figures, however, do not represent the total trade of the port, which is still carried on largely in native boats not under the cognisance of the Customs. The import of foreign goods into Nanking from Chinese ports was for 1899 (eight months) £92,003, for 1900 £213,528, and for 1901 £266,875. Opium, cottons, and sugar are notable among the imports. In the latter line, Hongkong imported 43,525 cwts. in 1901. If opium be included, says Mr. WILKINSON, about three-fourths of the foreign imports into Nanking, of which returns are available, are of British origin. In the absence of foreign merchants the trade in everything but sugar is entirely in Chinese hands. Consequently there is no direct business with foreign countries, the supplies required being purchased as a rule through foreign firms in Shanghai. With regard to exports to foreign countries, Mr. WILKINSON states that, without doubt, the opening of Nanking as a treaty port caused a healthy expansion of that trade. Many articles which formerly found their way to other places are now attracted to Nanking by the greater convenience of this port. The total value of the exports increased from £252,978 in 1900 to £324,179 in 1901, and the improvement promises to be well maintained. Silk is still, as in the earliest times, the staple export of Nanking. Skins and hides are a progressing export.

The future of Nanking, according to the British representative, depends on the railways, but he has no doubt that when the lines projected from Shansi and Shanghai are completed the port will be a great trading centre. At present its position precludes this. Chinkiang, 45 miles further down the river and at the mouth of the Grand Canal, has water communication in every direction, whereas Nanking has no canals and no good roads connecting it with the interior. The officials, as elsewhere in China, do all in their power to hinder the development of commerce. Owing to the opposition of the provincial government the transit pass system was practically dead in 1901. *Lekin*, too, has a most disastrous effect. Until the railways enter upon the scene there is little hope for Nanking. Two lines, both to be built by British companies, are projected, one from Shanghai via Soochow and Chinkiang, and the other from the Shansi mineral-fields. The latter, the construction of which rests with the Peking Syndicate, is the more important. The proposed route is from Tséhou, Southern Shansi, to Kaifengfu, where it will cross the Peking-Hankow line, and thence along

the present main road through Western Honan and Anhwei to Pukou, the total distance being about 500 miles. This line is primarily intended to provide an outlet for the mineral wealth of the great Shansi concession of the Syndicate. A serious rival, says Mr. WILKINSON, will be the German line in Shantung, which is certain to make a bid for the Honan and Anhwei traffic and will have the advantage of being the first in the field. It would be satisfactory to know that the Peking Syndicate is stirring in the matter, but unfortunately we have no indication of this. It appears from the report before us that British enterprise has the opportunity of opening up a great trade, whereby Nanking may be made the sole outlet of the produce of over 100,000 square miles of the richest soil in China. The question is, Will British enterprise seize the opportunity? The answer appears to rest with the Peking Syndicate.

THE TRADE OF SWATOW, AMOY, AND FOOCHOW IN 1901.

(Daily Press, 24th November.)

The Imperial Maritime Customs trade reports for the year 1901 at the three "coast ports," usually here classed together under that name, namely Santuao (Swatow), Amoy, and Foochow, differ considerably in the verdicts which they contain on last year's trade. At Swatow an excess of Hk. Tls. 590,822 over the 1900 figures is recorded, the net value of Swatow's trade in 1901 being Hk. Tls. 1,247,039. At Amoy "dull monotony" is said to have characterised the whole year's trade, of which but few sections enjoyed any degree of prosperity. The net value of the trade was Hk. Tls. 14,719,058, an increase of Hk. Tls. 775,830 from 1900. At Foochow, Mr. LAY, Commissioner of Customs, declares the year could not be considered a prosperous one; the gross value was Hk. Tls. 15,551,000, comparing very unfavourably with the figures of 1900. Swatow's improvement is declared by Mr. McALLUM to have been chiefly due to the fuller appreciation by the tea-men of the advantage of shipment of tea from Swatow as against overland carriage, but a general progress was recorded. The total collection of revenue at Swatow was Hk. Tls. 144,282, derived mainly from the export duty on tea. Coast trade and transit showed better results than in the previous year. Swatow having no direct foreign trade, the import and export branches of foreign goods are included under the heading of "Coastwise arrivals." From these it appears that the total value of foreign goods imported was Hk. Tls. 25,542, an increase of more than Hk. Tls. 24,000 over 1900. This is attributable to a few brokers in the port having attempted to work up a transit trade with Swatow as centre. Kerosene, pig-lead, agar-agar and seaweed were all imported in fairly large quantities. A fair development occurred in the inland transit trade inwards, and, Mr. McALLUM says, "it is absolutely certain that if an *entrepot* for foreign goods were opened at Santuao—goods being procured from Hongkong or abroad direct—a large and profitable business would follow."

At Amoy, in spite of the dull monotony alluded to, the year's collection of revenue, amounting to Hk. Tls. 690,548, was Hk. Tls. 24,718 better than in 1900. The gain was chiefly under import and coast trade duties and under the opium and *lekin* heading. Export duty and tonnage dues both showed slight losses. The net value of foreign goods imported was Hk. Tls. 7,555,255 (Hongkong supplying 63 per

cent.), which was an improvement on 1900. Cotton piece goods showed satisfactory increases in almost every heading. Metals improved slightly. American flour reached its record figures, being imported to the extent of 201,913 piculs, more than 50,000 piculs above the previous best. Kerosene oil fell off, the American product very notably so; the tank installations at Amoy enable the Russian and Sumatran oils to be sold cheaper. The import of rice decreased largely, the local harvest being exceptionally good. The export trade to foreign countries showed no signs of expansion. Under the heading of "Coast trade," we find that original shippings coastwise, though better than in 1901, were not so good as in 1899. The uncertain state of affairs and consequently uncertain markets in the North are blamed for this. Coastwise arrivals increased in value by Hk. Tls. 250,000. The inland transit trade inwards touched its record, and outwards an increase of nearly 23 per cent. was made.

Foochow's revenue in 1901 was only Hk. Tls. 1,040,091, the smallest in ten years. The revenue from imports indeed increased 23½ per cent., but that from exports fell 20 per cent. Foreign import trade reached Hk. Tls. 5,500,000 in value, cotton goods and yarn making a notable advance. As at Amoy, American kerosene oil appears to be vanishing out of the market; while Sumatran oil at Foochow advanced 48 per cent. in 1901. A great local scarcity of rice caused a strong demand for foreign rice. The disastrous figures in the export trade were due to the bad state of the China tea trade, Indian and Ceylon teas having ousted the Chinese in certain markets, such as Canada and Australia. Mr. LAY writes:—"In the opinion of a tea merchant, the tea trade in China, especially Foochow, cannot be regained unless some drastic measures are adopted by the Chinese—such as the revision of the export duties and the *lekin* dues, which are in themselves sufficient to cripple any trade, even without the competition of India and Ceylon, both of which countries have profited by the decrease in the China tea trade. Unless the Chinese take more care in picking and preparing the leaf, it will be useless to compete with India and Ceylon. Circulars in Chinese, it is suggested, should be distributed in the tea districts, and *lekin* on lead and tea abolished, so as to allow the growers to make a small profit and encourage them to take an interest in their gardens, instead of forcing them to give up the cultivation of the tea-plant altogether." One of the few satisfactory points in Foochow's 1901 trade figures was the increase of Hk. Tls. 1,454,000 in the "original shipments coastwise" section of coast trade. Coastwise arrivals suffered from the depression in trade with the North, but better results were hoped for in the current year. Inland transit trade inwards showed the usual decline, natives preferring to pay local dues rather than take out transit passes; outwards the return was nil. Mr. LAY mentions that numerous complaints reached him that trade was in a depressed state throughout Fohkien province. The anti-opium crusaders will note with horror that the poppy is now extensively grown throughout the province and that, judging from the increase in the land under cultivation, it seems not unlikely that the drug may form an article of export at no distant date. The import of the foreign drug decreased at Foochow by seven per cent., whereas at Amoy, where the local crop was smaller than was anticipated, there was a slight increase in the import of Benares opium.

THE WATER QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 22nd November.)

For the past three weeks the city of Victoria has been on intermittent water supply, and as a natural consequence (for so we must call it) a certain number of inhabitants have been deprived of all water except such as they can procure by sending out for it or fetching it themselves. It may be taken that the intermittent system will be continued henceforward up to next year's rains, and that those unfortunate people whose pipes the water is unable to reach will be obliged until the rains to get their supply from outside. We need not here dwell upon the fact, to which attention has so frequently been called of late, that the rainfall for January-October, 1902, was no less than eight inches above the average for that ten-month period. An interesting Water Return was published in our issue of yesterday showing the levels and storage of water in the reservoirs on this island on the 1st instant. As the figures may have escaped the attention of some of our readers we give them again below:—

	1901.	1902.
Below overflow.		
Tytam	20 ft. 4 in.	2 ft. 11 in.
Pokfulam	12 ft. 8 in.	11 ft. 5 in.
Wongneicheong	31 ft. 10 in.	45 ft. 0 in.

	1901.	1902.
STORAGE GALLONS.		
Tytam	234,170,000	312,610,000
Pokfulam	38,740,000	41,352,000
Wongneicheong	3,257,000	—

Total 276,170,000 357,962,000
Looking at the October Water Return, we find that there was on the 1st October, last a total of 439,981,000 gallons in storage, made up of 359,010,000 gallons at Tytam, 59,980,000 at Pokfulam, and 20,991,000 at Wongneicheong. Since that date Wongneicheong, which was then 7 feet 9 inches below overflow, is now returned as completely exhausted, while Tytam has lost 46,400,000 gallons and Pokfulam 18,630,000 gallons. The average consumption per head of population remained in November as in October, that is 18.3 gallons per head, while the population of Victoria and the Hill district was 216,000 on the 1st instant as against 215,600 the previous month. As it depends on the effect of the curtailed supply we will not attempt to work out the question of how long our present supply is calculated to last.

It was charged against the European community by our junior evening contemporary two days ago that their apathy in matters of public interest (such as the water question) contrasts ill with the public spirit shown by the Chinese community. Incidentally remarking that it is rather curious to find the *Telegraph* speaking of "our" apathy, when that journal is owned by the Chinese and is generally understood to represent Chinese opinion in Hongkong, we do not consider that the European residents here can fairly be called apathetic in the matter of the water supply. Our Chinese fellow-townsmen have no doubt done well for themselves in pressing forward a scheme for an auxiliary water-pipe system in the place of meters, and they will benefit if the scheme can be carried out. But this has nothing to do with improving the actual storage-capacity for water in Hongkong, which is the point of the whole matter. Public spirit alone will not enlarge the reservoirs any more than apathy will contract them. The only way in which public spirit can be directed with success toward the solution of the difficulty is by keeping constant pressure upon the Government until it takes the necessary steps to

give this Colony an adequate supply instead of tinkering at the reservoirs in so dilatory a fashion that by the time an enlargement is finished Hongkong has quite outgrown the increased storage capacity. Has the European public been apathetic with regard to the water question? The subject is one which has constantly been discussed in the organs representative of public opinion and among the residents themselves for years past, has been alluded to in numerous discussions on the state of Hongkong, and has been brought up at the Legislative Council by Unofficial members. It is true that there has been no public petition of the European community to H.E. the Governor with direct reference to water storage and supply. If this proves lack of interest, then the European residents lack interest in the matter. But it is evident that it does not prove that. A public petition such as that of 1901 is equivalent to a vote of no confidence in the Government, and as a commission of experts was appointed, after that petition had gone home, expressly to examine into the whole sanitary condition of the Colony, and as one of that commission's members did actually report on the question of the Colony's water supply, another petition should naturally be superfluous. It will readily be understood that the necessary increase of supply is not one that can be made at once. What we want from the Government is an assurance that extraordinary measures are being taken to hasten on a task of extraordinary urgency. We have received no such assurance, and in consequence the public must begin to suspect the worst. That such a state of affairs is dangerous it requires no especial penetration to perceive. If the local authorities do not take the first possible opportunity of giving the explanation which is due to residents in this Colony, they will be justly open to the charge of grave neglect of duty, and the public will be compelled to take up a much stronger attitude of opposition.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 27th ult. in the Council Chamber, Present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, Sir HENRY A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.

HIS EXCELLENCY Sir W. GASCOIGNE, K.C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).

Hon. F. H. M. Y. C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Sir HENRY SPENCER BERKELEY, Kt. (Attorney-General).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Commander R. M. RUMSEY, R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Dr. F. W. CLARK (Medical Officer of Health).

Hon. Dr. HO KAI, C.M.G.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Hon. C. S. SHARP.

Hon. C. W. DICKSON.

Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Hon. R. SHEWAN.

Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Acting Clerk of Council).

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minutes (Nos 62 and 63), and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee. The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

GUARANTEED OFFICERS.

Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR asked:—Whether the Government intend to require all Officers above the status of Unpassed Cadets to be guaranteed by an approved Guarantee Society instead of being guaranteed as at present by private individuals?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied in the negative.

THE INTERMITTENT WATER SUPPLY.

Hon. Mr. PLAYFAIR asked:—Would the Director of Public Works give some explanation of the inequalities of the intermittent system—why very many houses, which ought to get the full supply for the advertised period, get little or no water and even that little at a most insufficient pressure? Also, what steps, if any, are being taken to remedy this state of affairs?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—In cases where the house services are inadequate or defective in various parts of the City, public fountains are being erected to enable the people to obtain a supply of water.

INCREASING THE WATER SUPPLY.

Hon. C. S. SHARP asked:—Will the Honourable Director of Public Works inform the Council—(1) What works are now actually in progress in connection with the scheme for increasing the water supply of the Colony—at Tytam? at Tytam Tuk? (2) What will be the addition to the water supply of the Colony from these works when they are completed, and what quantity will be available from them during the winter of next year, in the event of there being at least a normal rainfall during next year?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—(1) At Tytam the construction of a reservoir below the byewash, capable of containing about 3 million gallons, is in progress. At Tytam Tuk, preliminary works are in progress to determine the practicability of constructing a dam capable of impounding about 1,000 million gallons. Tenders have been received for a pumping engine capable of delivering 1½ million gallons daily into the tunnel at Tytam. (2) The first part of the question is answered in the above. With regard to the second part, though the permanent works cannot be sufficiently advanced to be available by the winter of next year, it is anticipated that a supply of about 100 million gallons will be obtained by pumping from Tytam Tuk.

FIRST READINGS.

The following Bills were read a first time on the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY:—A Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend The Widows and Orphans' Pension Fund Amendment Ordinance, 1902 (No. 12 of 1902); a Bill entitled an Ordinance to further amend The Rating Ordinance, 1901; a Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend The Chinese Hospital Incorporation Ordinance, No. 3 of 1870; a Bill entitled an Ordinance to repeal Ordinance No 5 of 1902.

EMPLOYERS AND SERVANTS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the law relating to employers and servants. He said—The reasons for the introduction of this Bill and the necessity for its being passed into law were, I think, obvious to the general community before the Government introduced the Bill itself. The general complaint since I have been here—which is not long, only some months now—and the complaint which, I believe, had been prevalent long previous to that, was that great inconvenience had been experienced by employers and a great loss inflicted upon them from time to time by servants after making legal engagements for service refused to enter upon that service, the employers being left with practically no remedy in these cases, because the persons against whom a remedy was required were persons against whom it was of no value to proceed, and in a position that would make it a loss of time and money to enforce a civil remedy—damages for breach of contract. It was felt generally, and indeed the Government were indirectly asked to consider whether the time had not arrived when the provisions of the laws in force in other parts of the world should be brought into force; and that persons of that class generally known as servants should be summarily dealt with, for breaches of the character described, by the Magistrate. Well, the Government took the matter into consideration and the result was that this Bill or some of the provisions as dealt with that particular matter. The Bill also deals with the question of servants absconding themselves without leave, careless or negligent performance of work, insolence, and otherwise unbecoming conduct. The Bill proposes a summary remedy to employers in all the cases I have mentioned. At the same time the Bill provides amply for the protection of the servant in the performance of his duty, protection being given that he will

be properly treated by his master during the time he is in his service. The Bill does not effect in any way the ordinary law as to the right to dismiss summarily for special causes described generally as misconduct. It leaves the master the right to terminate the engagement if such causes arise and it leaves the servant to question the propriety of his dismissal. The Bill was in supplement to the existing law of the land. It provides a summary way for the servant to obtain his rights from his master and a summary way for the master to provide for the good conduct of his servant.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council then went into Committee on the Bill and considered it clause by clause.

The third reading was not taken.

LIGHTS TO BE CARRIED BY JUNKS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg, sir, to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance with reference to collisions between junks and ships. This Bill was drafted a long time ago—seven months ago—by my predecessor in office, and the reasons giving rise to the necessity for such a Bill are clearly set forth by him in the objects and reasons appended to his draft. No doubt hon. members have already read these objects and reasons, and if they have done so they cannot but concur with the reasons given, and agree that the object intended to be achieved is a good one. It was found that in questions of collisions before the courts, Chinese junks and ordinary shipping were placed on a very unequal footing, and this Bill is designed to place them on the same footing with respect to lights. The late Attorney-General, in dealing with that matter, said:—“Although the Legislature of this Colony cannot compel the observance of the International Rules concerning lights by junks outside the territorial waters, there can be no injustice in refusing to allow successful resort to the Colonial Court by junks neglecting to carry proper lights themselves, while claiming damages for a collision with some ship which is subject to the International Regulations. Often, in such cases, the collision would never have occurred had the junk carried lights indicating, even in the smallest degree, the course she was taking. Not infrequently evidence is adduced to show that no light at all was visible on the junk except perhaps just immediately before the collision, when a lantern was suddenly hoisted.” The principle of the Bill, put shortly, is to put junks and other shipping upon the same equality before the Courts, and I beg to move its second reading.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council then went into Committee on the Bill and considered it clause by clause.

On the Council resuming, and no alterations having been made, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

NEW TERRITORIES BILL.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL in moving the second reading of the New Territories Titles Ordinance said—The object of this Bill is to provide a system of land tenure for the New Territory exclusive of New Kowloon. In the Territories outside New Kowloon there are a large number of small holdings, the majority of them exceedingly small. I understand they run into something like quarter of a million. At the time the Territory was taken over these holdings were held by a system of patriarchal origin. It has been considered by those who have had the matter under their immediate administration that the state of society in that part does not fit the people at present for the introduction of a technical system of English Real Law Property. They considered it would be better to introduce a system simple, effective and cheap, something that the people could easily understand and be cheaply administered. Recognising the patriarchal system under which land is held there the Bill provides that the land-holder will be treated as a customary land-holder. Dealings with customary land by transfer or by way of charge and its transmission by inheritance are regulated by means of a system adapted from that in force in Australia, known as “the Torrens System.” Persons taking up land from the Crown in the New Territories may at their option become customary land-holders or they may obtain a Crown lease and come under the general law of the Colony.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL then moved that the Bill be referred to the Law Committee.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

NATURALISATION OF ALIENS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL in moving the second reading of the Naturalisation of Aliens Bill said—This Bill has been introduced for the useful purpose of obviating the necessity of constant recourse to this Legislature for the naturalisation of aliens. At the present moment it is necessary each time we desire the naturalisation of an alien to come before the Council with a special bill. Hongkong is one of the few places where that necessity still exists in the British Empire.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council then went into Committee on the Bill.

Some discussion ensued on a suggestion by Hon. R. Shewan that if a naturalised alien absented himself from the Colony for over 12 months at a time his certificate should be cancelled, but after His Excellency the Governor and other members pointing out that Chinese gentlemen, naturalised British subjects, were frequently absent from the Colony for three or more years, Hon. Mr. Shewan said he would not press his amendment in view of the expression of opinion by official members.

It was brought to the notice of the Committee that no provision was made in the Bill for the notification of the granting or the surrender of the naturalisation certificate, and the Bill was accordingly left in Committee stage for amendment.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS BILL.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the second reading of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, which was read a first time at last meeting of this Council. The subject matter of Bill has been before the public for such a very long time that it is hardly necessary for me to say anything at all in asking the Council to read this Bill for the second time, and the principle which is involved in the Bill, namely, the improvement of the sanitary condition of the Colony, is one which must so obviously commend itself to the Council that again it is hardly necessary for me to say anything in introducing the Bill. Still the Bill is of such importance to the public generally and fraught with such advantages if it is passed in the shape in which it is now presented before the Council, that I think it will be interesting and I am sure instructive if I gave a short history of the reasons which have led the Government to get the Bill presented here now in the shape in which it is. As long ago as 1896 the Sanitary condition of the town having before that attracted very serious attention on account of the ravages of the plague in years previously and also that year, in 1896 Governor Sir Wm. Robinson appointed a Commission to enquire into and report upon the insanitary condition of properties in Hongkong, how such insanitary conditions might be improved, and by whom such improvements should be carried out; that is to say at whose cost the improvements should be effected. On that Commission there sat the then Colonial Secretary and Sir Paul (then Mr.) Chater, a member of the Council; Mr. T. H. Whitehead, then also a member of the Council; and there were Mr. (now Sir) Thomas Jackson, and Mr. Ede. It was appointed in 1896, and the Commission reported in 1898. They reported that there were many insanitary properties in the Colony and dwellings which in their then condition were “unfit for human habitation”; that in a number of the houses the back portions were “dark, all ventilated, extremely dirty and in some cases were dens of filth.” With respect to the means whereby the improvement of these undesirable state of things should be effected the Commissioners recommended among other things that in houses fronting streets less than 15 feet wide no cubicles should be allowed on ground floors. Two of the Commissioners, Messrs. Whitehead and Ede, were of opinion that in such cases cubicles should be prohibited altogether and that no cubicles should be permitted on any floors that had no window of not less than one-tenth of the floor space opening directly out

into the external air; that in certain cases specified the owner should be “compelled to alter the construction of his house” so as to provide an open space at the back of not less than 40 square feet; that certain other structural alterations should be made by owners of houses; and that owners of private streets and lanes be required at their own expense to surface channel and light such streets and lanes and maintain them in a sanitary condition. These were the drastic recommendations made by the Commission. The Commissioners then declared that there was “no need for the resumption of these (insanitary) properties,” being of opinion that the alterations and improvements which they recommended would render the greater part of the houses “fit for habitation.” In their opinion Government would only be called upon to resume where the owners could not be got to agree upon a combined plan for improvement or where the lots “are so small and the buildings on them of such dimensions that to make the needful improvements in them as they stand would leave the existing houses more or less useless for all practical purposes.” Concluding their very valuable report the Commissioners state it to be their opinion *iter alia* that it is unnecessary for the Government to resume insanitary properties generally and that insanitary properties should be improved in the manner recommended in the report and that such improvements should be carried out by the owners at their own cost, failing which “they should be carried out by the Government and the owners call upon to refund the cost.” That was the opinion deliberately expressed by the Commission. Mr. Lanby who is of eminent character and good standing in this Colony, examined before the Commission, gave it as his opinion that there were a great number of dwellings in the City so insanitary as to be unfit for human habitation. In answer to Sir Thomas Jackson he said “There are a lot of cubicles in the Colony now which I would not allow—I do not understand why they are allowed to be there.” That is very important, I think. Then you should give consideration to the next forcibly expressed opinion of Mr. Danby, a man well able to form an opinion on the subject with which he was dealing. In answer to the Chairman he stated: “If you do away with cubicles on all the floors you depreciate the value of the property. I take it the owner would lose from \$1 to \$1.50 on each house. Supposing he had a house of three storeys he would lose the value of the cubicles on each of the floors; he would probably lose \$1 or \$1.50 or even \$2.” Well, sir, the Commission having reported, the fate which not infrequently comes to subjects which are sent to special Commissions for report overtook this subject; nothing was done and it was not possible at the time to do anything. However that may be, the feeling of the community seemed to be that something should be done, and in the year 1901 there was a petition addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies which was very largely signed by all the unofficial members of the Council except the Chinese members and signed, I think, by every architect in the place; that petition dwelt in language which in many cases it was impossible to say was too strong on the great danger which this insanitary condition of Hongkong laid upon every person inhabiting the Colony. The petition asked the Secretary of State to take into consideration the matter which had been laid before him and appoint a special Commission unconnected with the Colony to go out to the Colony, investigate the evils from which the Colony was suffering and report what could be done. And the petition added the request that to the Commission should be attached some independent sanitary expert to advise. This was done. Mr. Osbert Chadwick, than whom there is no more eminent civil engineer, came out along with Professor Simpson. In the concluding paragraph in the prayer of the petition it was asked that after receiving and considering the report of such Commission the Secretary of State would give directions for the recommendations of that Commission to be forthwith carried into effect. Bearing in mind the wishes of the public as expressed deliberately and forcibly in that petition the Government determined they would endeavour

to do what they had been asked to do. In order to give effect to the recommendations they asked Mr. Chadwick and Prof. Simpson to prepare a Bill. A Bill was prepared accordingly with the very able efficient assistance of Dr. Clark, the Medical Officer of Health, and that Bill after receiving the close attention and consideration of those gentlemen was presented to this Government. The Bill was introduced into the house on the 7th of July last. As then introduced it was the product of Messrs. Chadwick, Simpson and Clark. Every word in it was placed there by themselves. Therefore it contained nothing but the recommendations of the Commissioners who had been invited at the request of the petitioners. Of course if that Bill had gone to the second reading and subsequently to the house I should have asked and expected hon. members to have supported it, because the Bill did nothing more than that which they asked for themselves. They have asked for independent and competent persons to be sent out to report and recommend, and then they take the somewhat unusual but effective course of imploring that the Bill should be departed from, the Bill which gave effect to the recommendations that they had asked should be given effect to. Of course, we know it is one thing to ask and another to be satisfied with what you receive. So it turned out that the Bill after it was introduced in this Council perfectly in accord at that time with the requests and wishes, as far as the Government could understand them, of the public, met with considerable opposition, not because of the principle on which it is based, but as regards the details to which it was intended to give effect. So much was the Bill criticised by the architects, as to the provisions with which it dealt with the structural provisions of the Bill, and by persons who were affected by the Bill, such as landowners and others, this Government felt that the Bill could not be forced through the Council without the recommendations and criticisms being considered. In considering them the Government found many useful and valuable suggestions which they thought it right to adopt and give effect to. In fact, the reconsideration of the Bill generally made the Government withdraw the Bill which had been introduced, because it had then become apparent that the Bill which, at the time it was introduced gave effect to the wishes of the people for whom it was designed, and ceased to do so at the later stage, and would not have been for the general benefit of the community if it had been forced through as it then stood. The result is that I introduced a second Bill, which meets in almost every respect, I believe, the objections that have been urged against the Bill as it first of all appeared. I believe now that the Bill as it stands will give effect to the recommendations of the experts, except in so far as it relates to those recommendations which were in accord with the recommendations of Sir Thomas Jackson, Mr. Whitehead, and Sir Paul Chater. That is to say, it will be remembered that I pointed out to the Council that these gentlemen thought that no compensation should be given for anything at all, and that the owner should bear the cost of improvements. That was the recommendation of Messrs. Chadwick and Simpson, and on these lines the Government originally intended to go. At the time we introduced the Bill we had the support of at least three hon. members of this Council and of the two experts. The Bill, however, as now introduced, provides for compensation to be paid. I may say the Bill proposes to provide for compensation where it can be legitimately paid, not otherwise. I think this "not otherwise" comes in some cases where claims may be paid which will not be legal. In the case of the windowless cubicle, we do not consider that is a case in which a claim can be legitimately made. The Bill, therefore, does not provide for any loss which may fall upon a man by precluding him from housing his tenants in windowless rooms. The Attorney-General went on to read from the *China Mail* an extract dealing with the subject and bearing out the views that he had put forward. The extract was as follows, and was taken from the issue of 28th July:—"No one has any sympathy for the property-owner who allows his property to become

insanitary of itself, who lets out his property to rack-renting sub-tenants, or resorts to overcrowding to enrich himself. Not long ago Lord Rosebery delivered himself of a scathing denunciation of the slum landlord. In May of this year Mr. Walter Long, President of the Local Government Board, replying to a deputation from the leading municipalities, said he entirely concurred with the view expressed. The owner of a slum property who allowed that property to get into a disgraceful condition, and imperilled the lives of those who lived upon it, was entitled to no consideration, and certainly no sympathy." Well, the Government do not recognise any right to compensation by persons who have their tenants in windowless cubicles. The compensation clauses provided that for slaughter of animals compensation to be fixed by the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, for damage done to clothing, &c., during disinfection, compensation by the Sanitary Board. It is also provided that compensation will be given where the depth of buildings is limited to 4 feet; compensation for land left unbuilt on to be fixed by arbitration. Also, where land is to be resumed for scavenging lines—a very valuable provision which the Government hope will meet with the approval of this Council; also the Bill will provide compensation for refusal to allow re-erection of buildings over the entrance to a street or over any portion of a street; also where the height of buildings is limited. The amount to be allowed is to be fixed by arbitration. The composition of the Board will be such as to command respect and confidence. The Government will appoint one member, the owner will appoint another, and the Puisne Judge of the Colony, in the case of a dispute, will be the umpire. In allowing for compensation for the lessening in the height of buildings, the setting back of buildings, and reducing the depth of buildings, the Government have stepped farther than they need absolutely have done; that is to say, there was precedent for not doing it. As the law exists, it has been enforced since 1889. It limits compensation at height of buildings. However that may be, this Council provides for compensation in numerous cases, and H.E. the Governor, after giving it due consideration, has come to the conclusion that it is right and proper that compensation in these cases should be allowed. So far as it relates to the abolition of windowless cubicles, however, no compensation is allowed. I have every reason to hope that the Council will receive the Bill with every satisfaction. I think, for every reason I have advanced, the Bill as now before the Council should meet with practically unanimous support. I move the second reading (Applause)

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to second. My hon. friend has fallen into one slight inaccuracy when he said that on the report of the Sanitary Commission no action was taken until the Bill was laid before the Council. As a matter of fact, the Insanitary Properties Ordinance, 1899, stands on the Statute Book, and it has effected many improvements. It is but right to say, at the same time, that in some instances some of the provisions were abandoned owing to opposition to them. There is a saying that history repeats itself, and I think that what that really means is that men learn so slowly the lessons which experience would teach them, that they commit the same mistakes over and over again, and that these mistakes entail the same consequences. Members of this Council will remember the prediction of Dr. Ayres in 1874, and history records that when the Public Health Act of 1833, the first real attempt to put the city in a satisfactory sanitary state, was brought in, it met with such strong opposition that many of its most important provisions were abandoned. How unwise, how foolish, were the men of those days who opposed that Bill. What a train of sorrow and sickness did their action in those days bring upon this Colony. I feel certain, sir, that their action will not be imitated now by those who sit here in their places at this table, and by my friend the Senior Unofficial Member, who was at that time a member of this Council, and who has since, I am sure, learned that the health of Chinese can be improved by the adoption of Western sanitary measures. My friend the Attorney-General has referred to the fact that the

Government does not intend to give compensation for the abolition of windowless cubicles, and I would like to point out, because it is sometimes said that the Government is solely responsible for insanitary buildings, because the erection of these buildings was possible under its own laws, that even in the laws that existed before 1894 it was quite possible to construct houses of a sanitary type, which would have solved the cubicle question and given a window to each cubicle. We have it stated to that effect in the letter from Mr. Danby which he addressed to the Housing Committee which sat in 1894; and he cites in that letter that as long as the plans of Chinese houses comply with the requirements of existing buildings and Public Health Ordinances, "we architects are powerless to introduce such improvements as we should like if our clients refuse to adopt our suggestions, which they almost invariably do. Now, sir, I say it is very difficult to so frame a law that nothing objectionable can possibly be built under it, and if the Government were to blame in the past for not legislating in a more drastic manner, owners of properties must accept some responsibilities if they have not followed the advice of their architects and built houses that were reasonably sanitary. Sir, the supporters of this Bill—and I am sure everyone round this table will support it—do not pretend to believe that this will banish plague from these shores forever, but what they do hope is that, coupled with improvements of areas and the demolition of houses which no legislation can ever make thoroughly sanitary, this Colony will be put into such a condition that plague and other disease will be lessened, and that when the wave of plague which at present has spread over a large portion of the globe shall have receded, the next wave that takes place will dash itself ineffectually against our shores, and that a like fate will attend every other epidemic of infectious diseases. (Applause)

Hon. Dr. HO KAI—Sir, I have nothing to say against the Bill; in fact, so far as the principle of the Bill is concerned, I have no hesitation in saying that I, in common with my unofficial colleagues in this Council, support it heartily. With reference to the remarks of the Colonial Secretary concerning myself, that the health of the Chinese could be improved by Western sanitary measures, I may say, sir, I do not remember that at any time I made the assertion that the Chinese could not be improved by sanitary methods. I always believed that sanitary measures will benefit the Chinese, if properly carried out, as well as any person in the world, and I do not oppose sanitary measures for the Chinese just because I think it would not improve them or benefit them. But I do oppose any measures that have been hastily adopted. During the ten years that I sat on the Sanitary Board I opposed every measure which was introduced at the time without having been thoroughly explained to the Chinese, and without adequate provisions having been made for the carrying out of these measures. Now taking the present Bill, as I say, I only was opposed to the Bill on this account. We all agree, as the learned Attorney-General has said, that the sanitary improvement of the Colony is necessary, and we are all very anxious to support any measure for its improvement. But at the same time, sir, taking the Bill which was drafted in April and submitted to us in April, we could not possibly support it; in fact, we would have offered a very strong opposition to it, and the reason is quite plain, because, compare the Bill that was introduced in April with the Bill now before us, and one cannot but be struck by the change in the second one. The whole difference between the two Bills is the principle of compensation. We quite recognise that any private individual must keep his house in sanitary order, and that the landlords must maintain their buildings or their houses in a sanitary condition. Now, what does a sanitary condition mean? Well, a sanitary condition varies from time to time. In this Colony, when sanitary science was scarcely known, some ordinances were passed simply for the construction of houses, and the plans of houses were asked to be submitted to the Surveyor-General—at that time the title of the Director of Public Works—for approval. When the plans had been approved, the Chinese were permitted to build their houses in that particular fashion. Now, after

a certain time, we have found out that these houses are badly designed, and we have also learnt that the sanitary science of our days is quite different from what it was before. Then we go up to the landlords and say—"We cannot allow this to be done; we must ask you to build your houses, or to alter it, after a certain fashion, in order to meet the sanitary requirements of our present time." Now, landlords and owners of houses do not dispute that it would benefit the public health very much indeed if they were to follow out these later plans; but then they have already built their houses in accordance with the law which obtained at that particular time, and had the plans of their houses sanctioned by the prescribed authority at the Public Works Department, and they say, "If you wish us to alter our houses in order to suit or benefit the public, we will do so if you give us reasonable compensation," anything that tends to the public good must be paid for by the public. We hear, of course, of sacrifices for the public good; well, such men as make these sacrifices are heroes. But you cannot expect every landlord in this Colony, and every Chinese land-owner, to be heroes. They invest their money in houses because they will bring in an income to them of so much per cent. They come to this Colony, relying upon the justice and fairness of English law and the protection of the English flag, and invest their money, and they thought at the time they invested in these houses that they were built in accordance with the law existing at the time. Now what right has any legislature to turn round to them, after making their investment, and say, "Modern sanitary science requires you to make certain sacrifices?" Suppose they have bought and paid for all these houses, are they going to be sacrificed for the good of the public without compensation from the public for it all? If any landlord likes to sacrifice his land for such a public purpose, he must be called a philanthropist and a public benefactor, but he can scarcely be considered a business man. Now, the present Bill that has been drafted and submitted by the Government gives that compensation, and it is that that we have been fighting for. Our earlier opposition, sir, was not because we do not desire sanitary reform or improvement. A large number of my unofficial colleagues in this Council signed the petition to the Secretary of State for the Colonies asking him to send out experts to examine into the condition of this Colony, and to report and make the recommendations to be carried out; and that shows, I think, because we are the representatives of the people, that there is a general feeling in the Colony for an improvement in sanitary matters in this Colony. We are all in favour of that improvement, the only thing we desire in return from the Government is this—that we get just compensation. If the Colony is to benefit by these sanitary improvement, it should pay for them. Now, as I say, the Government have recognised this principle, and so meets our principal objection to the Bill, but at the same time I regret to see that there is no provision in the Bill to deal with the windowless rooms, as the learned Attorney-General terms them, although they are better known under the name of cubicles. There is no doubt in my mind, and I do not think there can be in the minds of any one who has been in the Colony a few days and looked round, that the greatest sanitary evil amongst the Chinese is these windowless rooms. They are dark and unhealthy, and yet these cubicles have been permitted by the Government to exist. House after house has been built for years and years with these self-same cubicles, and all these houses have been permitted by the Government. And yet without these cubicles it is impossible for people to live in them with privacy. I say it is a very great mistake. Ordinary Chinese houses are about 15 feet wide; take away the thickness of the outer walls and you will find they are about 13 feet or 13 feet six inches broad and their average depth is about 40 or 50 feet; some go down to 80 feet. Now, what man can make use of a house like that or the floor of a house like that without cubicles? It is impossible for any family to do it if they are to have privacy, and therefore the Chinese have got into the habit of turning these long rooms of 40 or 50 feet, and only 13 feet wide, into a number of small rooms, which

are called cubicles. Now, the growth of these cubicles is not Chinese altogether, for the Chinese learn to make use of the cubicle only in Hongkong. If you go to Canton and see the houses there, you will find nothing like cubicles in regular, proper Chinese houses. But the Government here, the law here the Public Works Department here, have permitted the people living in these long, narrow houses to adopt this method of providing accommodation for their families. Now, what is to be done to do away with these cubicles? I understand it is not to be done in the Bill, which provides for open spaces in the front and back of buildings, and just now the learned Attorney-General says he wants to limit the house to 40 feet depth, in which case the walls will have to be thickened out a few inches. 40 feet by 13 feet—the depth is out of proportion to the width, and you can imagine a room 13 feet wide and 20 feet deep inhabited by a number of the Chinese working-class, who are none of the cleanest, and who will keep it for the moment up to the full capacity of the house that the law allows. It would have been much better if the Government had considered a plan to carry out the improvements at once, to give every cubicle a window and proper ventilation and light. If that were done, the great insanitary evil of this Colony would be done away with for ever, and I believe that plague would disappear from our midst, and the amount we saved every year would simply pay the expense the Government would be involved in in granting compensation or in resuming every three houses in the Colony. Now I do not think it is necessary in the second reading to go into details of the scheme; that will come in its proper place, when I hope to be able to point out certain matters in various parts of the Bill which might be improved. All I can say for the present is this—that since the Government have recognised the grand principle of compensation, so far as we are concerned, as representatives of the people on this Council, we have no objection whatever to the second reading of this Bill. Of course, when the Council goes into committee on the Bill we shall very likely wish to offer a few remarks for the consideration of the Government. There is no provision made, for instance, for the spreading of the population, and it seems to me that in a Bill of this kind some attention should be given to the poorer classes of the people and the prevention of overcrowding in future. Of course the tramway, when it is completed, will assist us to a certain extent, but at the same time I think the Government would be advised to give its attention to a scheme for the providing of house accommodation for the working classes. I think it is in that direction that we should proceed. With these few remarks I beg to support the reading of this Bill. (Applause.)

Hon. C. S. SHARP—I desire to preface the few remarks I have to make on this Bill by something in the nature of a complaint, one of what I can't help considering a want of consideration to the members of Council. We have had several editions of this Bill all of which I have laboriously gone through in order to familiarise myself with their contents, but I was hardly prepared to have a new edition sprung on us almost at the last moment (Tuesday afternoon) without sufficiently sure indications of what changes were embodied in it. There are some portions in italics which I take to show the added matter, but there is nothing whatever to show what portions of the previous edition have been omitted, and personally I am not at the moment sure what the Bill as in this latest edition really is. I think considering the length of the Bill and late date at which this edition was furnished it was only due to members of Council that a memorandum should have been furnished showing exactly where the changes had been introduced and the fact that this was not done seems to me to argue a want of consideration which we can hardly be thought to be too captious in making complaint about. My remarks are therefore based on the edition of the Bill handed us before the last one I have just referred to. I think we may well congratulate ourselves upon the fact that the last Public Health and Buildings Bill has been withdrawn, and that some time has been spent in devoting attention to the Bill now before us,

for it is evident that such additional time has been well employed, as the new Bill in very many of its particulars shows very great improvement on its predecessor, and I would even go so far as to say that what in some particulars was rather an absurd Bill has been turned into one of much more reasonable and workable character. I fully approve of the spirit of this Bill, which I think will be welcomed by the thinking portion of the community as a step distinctly in the right direction—the direction of setting our house and Colony more in order from a sanitary point of view, and thereby assisting in putting a stop to the necessity for the heavy expenditure entailed of recent years in combatting the epidemics which have unfortunately visited this port, to say nothing of removing the serious disabilities and inconveniences from which the important commercial interests of the port have been suffering from same cause. I am a firm believer in the saving virtues of more light and air as one of the best means in assisting to combat and remove these epidemics and diseases, of which we have unfortunately had far too much of recent years, and this Bill will undoubtedly go far to provide this remedy, but there is an old proverb that one may be able to lead a horse to the water, but not be able to force him to drink when he is got there, and we shall still have to see if the occupiers of houses can be induced to avail themselves properly of all the sanitary measures which will be provided by this Bill. It is well, too, to remember that the experience of the past year goes some way to show that with the present existing laws, and a timely cleansing well ahead of the season when these diseases usually make their appearance, and other sanitary precautions taken in good time, such as the extermination of rats, &c., these outbreaks can be considerably mitigated, if indeed they cannot be prevented altogether; at all events there seem to be some reasonable grounds for such a belief. Some interests will undoubtedly be pinched by the measures in contemplation, and no doubt some matters in the Bill will require amendment or modification in Committee, but the main principles of the Bill, I think, are to be commended. The question arises whether the measures in contemplation are of too drastic a nature, and this is a point to which it will be necessary to give the most careful attention. There must undoubtedly be a point at which the necessary items of expense and expediency come in, the cost as weighed against the advantage proposed to be gained. Shall we be paying too dear for our whistle? Shall we be driving away Chinese population from the Colony, and thus bring loss to the community and all its interests, possibly by causing living expenses to go up to such a point that labour will become so much dearer and scarcer, and thus cut off one of the advantages from which this Colony has hitherto derived much of its prosperity as a manufacturing and distributing centre? I confess to having some misgivings about this. A very large number of the inhabitants, it seems pretty certain, must be displaced if the provisions of the Bill are enforced, and the anxious question arises how the housing of these displaced ones is to be provided for. It can hardly be wise or prudent for a Government which should, and no doubt does, have the best interests of the Colony at heart to put into force measures having such effects without at same time taking up the question of providing remedial measures for such effects of its legislation, and one would have liked to hear a good deal bearing on this most important point, and I cannot help thinking it most unfortunate, to put it in the mildest form, that Government has said nothing on this matter. As to the many technical bearings of the portion of the Bill specially referring to building it is hardly possible for a non-expert to say exactly how these will work out in practice, but we have had considerable assistance in forming some appreciation of these from the results of the researches the various property owners made through their professional advisers. One thing I feel sure the community ardently desires to arrive at in regard to these matters, if possible, is some sort of finality in regard to such legislation. I observe that Mr. Chadwick in his remarks on the Bill he drew up says that his Draft Ordinance "has for its object the avoidance of the necessity for further sanitary legislation for the next few years," which

qualification is in a sense rather disquieting, to say the least, and is likely to be productive of considerable misgivings on the part of those interested in property here, as well as on the part of the general public; for since the first visitation of the plague in 1894 we have had no fewer than 4 new or amending ordinances brought into force relating to building, the last as late as 1901, and 11 relating to sanitation and kindred matters, and the Bill now before us proposes to repeal in part or in full no fewer than 23 ordinances, all relating to building and sanitation; and passed in the comparatively short space of the past 15 years, and this continual introduction of fresh legislation bearing on the same subjects cannot fail to have, and does have, the effect of creating misgivings and great uncertainty in the mind of the public, which must be bad for the place and its prosperity. If only the public could be reassured on this point it would, to say the least, be a very great benefit all round. Another matter closely identified with these measures is the provision of an adequate staff in the Sanitary and Public Works Departments to ensure their being efficiently carried out. Without these the objects aimed at by the Bill will be considerably impaired, if not nullified, and I would desire to make strong representations on this point. In regard to the question of compensation, there will no doubt be some difference of opinion. This question of compensation for disturbances is no doubt a thorny one, but it has nevertheless to be handled, and personally I think that Crown lessees have many good and valid reasons to adduce why they should not be treated any worse in respect of this than the home laws allow in like instances. I understand that is the ground they take up in this matter, and a very reasonable ground it seems to me. In ordinary everyday life if two persons enter into an agreement and if subsequently one of the parties to that agreement desires to vary or modify any of the terms thereof, such could only be done by mutual arrangement, and by the payment of compensation for any loss to the other party which might be shown to be brought about by the changes proposed, and so in like manner with changes necessitated by this Bill. The Government in days gone by have leased certain lands on certain terms and conditions to certain lessees, and it is now proposed to in various ways modify the terms of these Crown leases, or to impose conditions connected with the use and enjoyment of the land which were not in existence when the Government sold the land, and which will to some extent interfere with rights in the properties concerned. Broadly speaking it appears to me that if the laws have been observed by the Crown lessees, the law governing the laying out of their property, and that relating to the construction and occupation, &c. of the buildings, if all these have been complied with, and if another law be now introduced and put into force modifying or altering these conditions of the Crown leases, even although such modifications and alterations may be intended for the benefit of the Colony and public at large, the Government in all fairness ought to bear the expense of this and compensate Crown lessees fairly for the sacrifices involved. Reform has been asked for by the Colony, and this Bill seems to provide for a large measure of this, and we should feel satisfied that this is being done, for reforms have undoubtedly been greatly needed. But the other considerations have also to be reckoned with, and it would be a very un-British-like proceeding to meddle with well established and recognised rights without due compensation. I trust therefore that in dealing with this most vital point fairness, if not liberality, will be the motto governing the practice. Much has been alleged at times as to the iniquities of the landlord class, but I look upon that as a sort of natural antipathy on the part of the *hoi polloi* of rent paying mankind towards the comparatively few rent receivers, commonly dubbed the "grasping rackrenting landlords," but it must be recollected that these last have their rights as well as the others, rights which have always been most jealously guarded by the British legislature, and in this case the rights under which they hold their lands from the Crown appear to be threatened with serious alterations or modifications by this Bill, which provides for some measure of compensation, but to my idea further compensation in certain respects is necessary. Another most

important point seems to me to be the absolute necessity, if the provisions of this Bill are to be put into force, that the matter of resumptions, and subsequent laying out of such resumed properties be only carried out under some well considered and definite plan. We have a pretty bad example before us of the evils resulting from the haphazard style in the past of laying out the town, and it will never do to let anything of that sort become the fashion in regard to resumption and subsequent laying out. It may be said with truth that in nearly every respect the necessity for this Bill has been brought about by the necessity for repairing the evil resulting from past neglect and faulty legislation.

Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR—Your Excellency, in the first place I desire to express thanks to the two experts whose labours and investigations fully justified the petition sent home to the Secretary of State. Thanks are also due to Mr. Chamberlain for so promptly taking notice of it, and thanks to the Government for taking the steps to put in through. The Bill, which is a large and comprehensive one, and one which should do a great deal to remove the black record of overcrowding, filth, and insanitary conditions with their natural concomitant of disease and plague. I was very much amazed at the Attorney-General trying to say black was white over a certain clause at the end of that petition, but I repudiate the construction he tried to put upon it. As chairman of that committee which sent in the petition, I utterly repudiate it on my own behalf and on those who signed it. It does not stand to reason that any sensible person would accept the construction put upon it. I may say personally that I am thoroughly in favour of this Bill. Personally, the alterations and additions which have been made in the new addition to the Bill I thoroughly approve of. In fact, it was almost in line with what I stated in the month of July, but as regards slum properties, I am afraid the Senior Unofficial Member rather took upon himself too much when he included me in saying he was speaking for the unofficial members, for he has not consulted the unofficials and I have to repudiate anything he said in favour of more compensation. I am not at all in favour of compensation for cubicles. The Senior Unofficial Member referred to the landlords getting as much per cent.—that is the root of the whole matter, so much per cent. That is why they buy slum property, because they get far more than from any ordinary investment; and why should they be considered? They have put up the rentals at the least 100 per cent. in the last ten years. Are you asking the ratepayers to go and save them? There are two sides to that; the ratepayers have also to be considered. I am afraid the Senior Unofficial Member is rather holding a brief for the landlords. He referred to the displaced population. Do you propose to displace the population all at once, and the process will act automatically. New houses will be built gradually; the tram will extend; and the whole thing is a bugbear to think that it will be taken as a reason that the Bill should not be proceeded with on these lines. I had intended to go into matters on the report of the Commission appointed by Sir William Robinson, but I was glad to hear that the Attorney-General went into that thoroughly. It is a most important point to see the signatories of the petition. I simply wish to say for myself that I am thoroughly in accord with the Bill, and most intelligent people in the Colony are, notwithstanding the aspersions of my friend the Attorney-General. (Applause.)

H.E. THE GOVERNOR—In view of some observations that have been made by one or two hon. members, especially by Mr. Sharp, I should be glad to explain in reference to this Bill that there is nothing in the Bill now before the Council that was not in the original Bill. The difference is that certain things have been deleted, and I think that if he looks over and compares the Bills the hon. member will see that except in a very few instances the one thing they had gone into in the new Bill was the compensation question. It is a repetition of a large portion of the Bill as introduced originally. We have considered it at length. The hon. member in his observations said very properly that there had been frequent

legislation on the subject of sanitation, and the hon. member quoted quite a large number of measures which had been passed within the past few years on sanitation and deprecated the introduction at frequent intervals of fresh legislation. I quite agree with the hon. member in his view as to the inadvisability of that, but I think if you look over this Bill you will find it is a consolidation Bill and there is really very little fresh legislation in it. In the previous sanitation ordinances are consolidated to enable the people of the Sanitary Department to have in their hands everything that is known in the Colony, everything that is law with reference to their particular duty; and instead of having to roam over the various ordinances of the Colony during the past number of years all the ordinances of this kind in force are brought together and placed in one ordinance to which the Sanitary Department officials can refer. I think the hon. member will agree that it is better that the laws should be so consolidated than that the Sanitary Department should be compelled to look over a large number of ordinances to make themselves acquainted with them and so on. A very large question that has been brought forward by the hon. member is the question of what is to be done with the large number of people who must be displaced by the operations of this Ordinance. I quite agree with that. But then, on the other hand, the Ordinance is not going to act at a moment's notice. Action must necessarily be slow and the broad question will present itself to us whether it is better that we should suddenly undertake a large measure of socialist legislation by the Government entering with the public money into competition with those whose business it is to build and supply houses for the accommodation of the people or whether we should leave that to the ordinary operation of commercial principles; and my own view is that it is better to leave it to the ordinary operation, especially here in Hong-kong where there are societies and individuals who have money and are quite ready to supply it when they find that the public require it. With regard to the remarks of Mr. Playfair I must say I differ a little with him in his estimate with reference to the petition that was sent home, because I think that if he will take the trouble to read carefully Mr. Chadwick's report it has completely blown out of the water his own statement that the Government or the Public Works Department had neglected the recommendations made by Mr. Chadwick. However, I made these few observations because I understand the Attorney-General does not wish to answer them, as perhaps he has not studied these matters so carefully as I have done for two or three years. I earnestly hope that this Bill will go through and I hope we will find some finality in this necessary legislation on sanitary matters, and that the result will be, what we all hope, beneficial to this Colony and possibly in the future it may prevent the recurrence of these terrible epidemics of plague which have done so much mischief in the past. (Applause.)

The Bill was read a second time, and the Council adjourned until next Thursday.

The *P. and T. Times* of the 13th ult. says that the occurrence of a financial crash among the Chinese merchants at Tientsin is only a question of time.—Prince Su has extracted two million taels from the Wai Wu Pu for the continuation of public works in Peking.—The Peking Syndicate is getting on splendidly in Honan, and will have its locomotives running in another month.—There has been another breach in the Yellow River near the mouth.

A vigorous attack has been made on Sheng Kung-pao by two well-known Censors. The denunciation consists of twelve counts, charging him with avarice, extravagance, and nepotism. A report circulated in mandarin circles in Shanghai, according to the *N.-O. Daily News*, states that the Throne has ordered Viceroy Chang Chih-tung to investigate the charges, and that he has appointed a couple of his subordinate officers to journey to Shanghai and make secret enquiries thereabout.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 27th ult. in the Board Room. Present:—Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer (President); Mr. C. McL. Messer, Acting Registrar-General; Lieut.-Colonel G. A. Hughes, R.A.M.C.; Mr. E. Osborne, Mr. Fung Wa Chun, Mr. Lan Chu Pak and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

MANILA FREE OF CHOLERA.

A letter was read from H.B.M.'s Consul at Manila stating that that port had been declared free of cholera, and that he was issuing a clean bill of health.

The PRESIDENT moved that the Board request the Government to make enquiries as to the reported recrudescence of cholera in Manila.

Lieut.-Col. HUGHES seconded, and the motion was agreed to unanimously.

HONGKONG CLUB A NEXE

An application was submitted for permission to erect six water-closets and one urinal at the annexe to the Hongkong Club and also accommodation for Chinese servants.

Mr. Osborne minuted:—"Do not grant unless applicants provide a constant supply of water from a well independently of the Government supply."

On the proposal of the PRESIDENT, seconded by Mr. OSBORNE, it was agreed to grant the application on the understanding that the usual requirements of the Board in such cases were complied with.

ERECTING OF URINALS.

An application was made for permission to erect urinals at a new building on Marine Lot No. 101.

Mr. Osborne minuted:—"Do not grant unless applicants sink a well and provide pumps to maintain a constant supply of water. They must not rely on the Government supply."

The Medical Officer of Health minuted:—"I agree with Mr. Osborne."

It was agreed to reply in the terms of Mr. Osborne's minute.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

It was reported that the death-rate during the week ended 15th November was 21.1 per 1,000 of the population per annum as against 22.1 in the previous week and 19.7 in the corresponding week of the previous year.

RAT-CATCHING.

It was reported that the number of rats killed during the weeks ended 17th and 21st November were 2,718 and 2,701 respectively, of which 54 were found to be infected.

LIMEWASHING.

The limewashing returns showed that 2,682 houses in the Central District and 518 in the Western District had been treated. In the former district there were 9 prosecutions and \$14 in fines.

This was all the public business.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At a meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce held in the Chamber Room, City Hall, on Tuesday, the 18th November at 3.0 p.m. Present:—Hon. C. S. Sharp (Chairman), Mr. W. Poate (Vice-Chairman), Messrs. N. A. Siebs, J. R. M. Smith, H. E. Tomkins, R. C. Wilcox, Hon. R. Shewan (ex-officio), and A. R. Low (Secretary).

RESIGNATION OF MR. A. HAUPT.

A letter was read, dated 1st instant, from Mr. A. Haupt resigning his membership of the Committee in view of his approaching departure from the Colony. The Secretary reported that a reply had been sent to Mr. A. Haupt on 11th instant, acknowledging the receipt of his letter and thanking him for his services on the Committee during the past four and a half years.

ELECTION OF NEW MEMBER OF COMMITTEE.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that Mr. C. Michelin be invited to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. A. Haupt. This was seconded by Mr. N. A. Siebs and carried unanimously.

NEW MEMBER.

The SECRETARY reported that Messrs. Edwards, Piry & Co., Ltd., had been duly elected to membership since the last meeting.

STORM WARNINGS.

In accordance with the decision arrived at the last monthly meeting a circular letter was, on the 13th ult., addressed to all the shipping firms and agencies in the Port asking them to collect information from their shipmasters on the subject of the publication of storm warnings and to send on their views to the Chamber in order that a better scheme for the diffusion of weather information by the Hongkong Observatory may be formulated for the consideration of the Government.

The SECRETARY reported that a number of replies had been received and, after some discussion it was decided to ask the Peninsular & Oriental S.N. Co., Jardine, Matheson & Co. and Butterfield & Swire each to send a shipping representative to form a sub-committee to report on the matter sent into the Chamber.

CHINESE STOWAWAYS TO PHILIPPIN S.

In accordance with the opinion expressed at the last monthly meeting further representations were made to the Government in a letter dated 13th ultimo, in which attention was specially drawn to the facts of the case of the s.s. *Loongsang* and asking His Excellency the Governor to reconsider this matter with a view to making the penalty a really deterrent one, i.e., imprisonment with hard labour in addition to, or instead of, the infliction of a fine.

In answer the Colonial Secretary replied on the 17th ult. stating that H.E. the Governor was awaiting an answer from the American authorities on this subject, and that on its receipt further communication would be addressed to the Chamber.

After some discussion it was agreed to wait another fortnight and then, failing a reply, make further enquiries from the Government as to the attitude they were prepared to assume on this subject.

MERCHANT SHIPPING AMENDMENT ORDINANCE.

Read circular letter dated 18th ult., written in accordance with the decision come to at the last monthly meeting, addressed to the Chambers of Commerce of London, Glasgow, Liverpool, and Southampton, placing before them all the grounds of objection raised by the Shipping interests of this Colony and the steps taken to endeavour to obtain the elimination from the Ordinance of the clauses making ship-owners liable for the costs and expenses of passengers who have died, or have been taken ill on board, and who have been removed therefrom under the Quarantine Regulations of the Ordinance, on their arrival in this Colony, and asking for their co-operation and support with a view to the repeal of the Regulation objected to.

The SECRETARY reported that letters were also sent to the Hongkong Government, to the shipping firms and agencies in this Colony who had originally petitioned against the innovation, informing them of the decision of the Committee on this subject and the further steps proposed to be taken.

The CHAIRMAN said they could only await result of the correspondence with the Home Chambers.

ADDITIONAL FACILITIES FOR TRAFFIC ON THE WEST RIVER.

The SECRETARY reported that no reply had as yet been received from Sir E. Satow in answer to the representations on this subject conveyed in the letter from the Chamber of the 8th ult.

A letter was read from the Colonial Secretary, dated 20th ult. enclosing copy of H.E. the Governor's letter of 24th September last, supporting the requests of the Shipping Companies interested, and also a letter from the same source, dated 25th ult., enclosing copy of telegram from Sir E. Satow, dated 16th ult., stating that he would reply on receipt of a communication from the Consul-General at Canton on this subject.

The CHAIRMAN said there was no official information to hand, but it was generally understood that the facilities asked for had been granted, subject to arrangements being made as to the port of call to be selected.

THE PROPOSED LICENSING OF PILOTS.

The following letter was read:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
16th October, 1902.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, on the subject of the proposal for the licensing of pilots at this Port, and to inform you that His Ex-

celsency the Governor having carefully considered this question, sees no reason to change the decision arrived at by Sir W. Gascoigne, which was communicated to you in my letter No. 1,574 of the 15th of last July.—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant.

F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.

THE SECRETARY.

Chamber of Commerce.

The SECRETARY reported that with the object of obtaining further information and support a circular letter was sent on the 1st instant to the shipping firms and agencies in the Colony on this subject, and asking for replies to be sent in before the end of the month.

NEW PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS BILL.

The copy of the Petition to His Excellency the Governor from the principal European land-owners in the Colony regarding the Public Health and Buildings Bill 1902 (since withdrawn) was laid on the table and a letter read, dated 14th instant, from the Chairman of the European Land-owners' Committee enclosing a copy of letter to Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G., Senior Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council, conveying the opinion of the principal European land-owners that the second reading of the substituted Bill should be postponed for a month to enable the owners thoroughly to consider its provisions and asking the unofficial members to support them in their contention.

CONNECTION OF HONGKONG AND SWATOW BY EASTERN EXTENSION

AUSTRALASIA AND CHINA CABLE.

A letter was read, dated 10th ult., from Messrs Bradley & Co., asking the Chamber's support to an application recently made to the E.E.A. & C. Telegraph Co., to connect Swatow with Hongkong by cable.

The SECRETARY reported that from enquiries made at the local offices of the Telegraph Company, it appeared that the suggestion had been sent Home to the Company's directors, but so far sufficient time had not elapsed for any decision to be made known.

It was resolved to await the determination of the Telegraph Company before moving in the matter.

PROPOSED METRIC SYSTEM OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Read letter from Colonial Secretary, dated 28th ult., transmitting copy of circular despatch, containing copy of a resolution passed by the Colonial Premiers from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 9th September last, enquiring whether the Chamber views favourably the proposal to adopt the metric system of weights and measures for use in Hongkong.

It was unanimously agreed to reply that the Committee strongly supported the suggestion for the establishment of the metric system of weights and measures throughout the Empire.

PROPOSED PARCEL POST EXCHANGE WITH UNITED STATES.

A letter was read from the Amoy Chamber of Commerce, dated 17th ultimo, enclosing copy of letter written to the Acting Postmaster General of Hongkong, on the subject of the establishment of a direct Parcel Post exchange with the United States of America, and asking for the support and co-operation of this Chamber.

The SECRETARY reported that representations with this end in view were made to the Government in a letter written to the Colonial Secretary, of 3rd instant, and it was also pointed out that the revenue accruing from the service would doubtless be specially welcome at the present time to the Government of the Colony.

A reply was received from the Colonial Secretary, dated 11th instant, stating that on the 4th instant His Excellency the Governor had despatched a letter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies suggesting that steps should be taken to execute a convention between this Colony and the U.S.A. similar to the parcel post convention between the U.S.A. and the Windward Islands, which was signed at Washington on 24th February, 1892.

THE OFFICIAL TELEGRAPH VOCABULARY.

Read letter, dated 18th ult., from Mr. Von der Pfordten, Manager in China of the Joint Telegraph Companies informing the Chamber that the postponed International Telegraph Conference would be held in London on 26th May next, and also letter in reply, dated 28th ult., thanking Mr. Pfordten for his courtesy in forwarding this information.

A letter was also read from the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, dated 30th September last, enclosing copy of a letter which had been addressed to the Director General of Telegraphs in India on the subject of the official Code Vocabulary, and expressing the hope that the Chamber would join forces and strongly object to the proposed compulsory use of the Vocabulary and at the same time press for uniformity in telegraph forms.

After some discussion, it was decided to support the views of the Bombay Chamber and to take up the matter with the London Chamber of Commerce.

This concluded the business before the meeting.

S. ANDREW'S BALL.

When the exhausting summer of the island, with its dull, soulless days, has passed reluctantly away, the social event in the functions of the coming winter that may be set down as the most pleasantly anticipated is the great Scottish reunion, S. Andrew's Ball. It is a pronounced trait in the character of the Scot, wherever met, to preserve his nationality, and surely there were no better way of doing this than by setting apart one day in the year for the foregathering of exiles "frae the land o' the heath and the heather." The Scot, too, is as careful in the election of his acquaintances as he is alleged to be in the expenditure of his "bawbes." On S. Andrew's night, however, his reserve is laid aside, and Sandy, a picturesque figure in his Highland garb, assumes the rôle of host, playing it well, too, or S. Andrew's Ball would never be the success it is. But the Society has another object besides the fitting celebration of the anniversary of Scotland's patron saint. Burns's countrymen love the land of their birth, and it is no diminution in the strength of their affection that impels them to forsake the old country for other lands over the seas. Fortune, however, is not always kind, and though some have prospered others bear on their lives the imprint of misfortune. To these latter, the playthings of fate, the hand of the Society is extended in charity, but it is a tribute to the perseverance of the Scot and his ability to rise superior to the obstacles the world throws in his way that few calls are ever made on the generosity of the Society. He plods steadily on, seeking inspiration in the thought, "De'il tak' the himmaist."

It has already been remarked that anticipation of S. Andrew's Ball is always pleasurable, and the feeling was intensified when one arrived on the scene of the fête and viewed the elaborate preparations that had been made for the event. The entire accommodation of the City Hall, where the Ball was held on Friday evening, was, as usual, utilised for the occasion. Thus, S. Andrew's and S. George's Halls were devoted to dancing, the Theatre Royal was converted into a supper room, and the Library was set aside for cards and refreshments. In the Chamber of Commerce was also a refreshment bar, and in the adjoining Committee Room the guests were received. Elaborate as ever was the scheme of decoration, in which no noticeable departure was made for the good and sufficient reason that it defies improvement. It is a difficult task to describe the beauty of a scene such as that of last night; at the best, one can but enumerate the various designs that went to its perfection, and then it is impossible to convey to the mind anything approaching an accurate impression of the splendour of it all. The dull white of the pillars in the vestibule was relieved by circling bands of greenery, and at the foot they were hidden by clustering plants, which also lined the way up the broad, red-carpeted stairway and dotted the balustrades at brief intervals. Against the wall facing the staircase the Scottish thistle was picked out in little electric lamps, many-coloured and brilliant, the whole being placed in prominent relief upon the Royal Standard. On each side, this beautiful design was flanked by the S. Andrew's Cross in silver, and round the walls hung shields of similar device, some of these also carrying a thistle. As the visitor made his way upstairs there rose before him, at the head of the staircase and underneath the illumined thistle, a great mirror in which was reflected an emblazoned trophy of radiating bayonets and the Scottish Shield surmounted

by the Royal Crown. Two howitzers on the first landing surrounded by the all-prevailing greenery imparted an air of impressiveness to a spectacle which derived additional charm from the presence of a fine royal stag's head on the main landing, tastefully draped with flags. These were of all nationalities, and amongst others a significant combination was made of the Japanese colours and the Union Jack. The dates 1847 and 1902 recalled the time that the S. Andrew's Society has been in existence, and the noteworthy fact that its inception was coincident with the birth of the Colony. In the various halls and rooms the decorations were continued with equally good results, a certain uniformity being observable in the embellishment of S. George's Hall and S. Andrew's Hall. In the former, the portrait of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria stood out in relief from the Royal Standard on one side and the Irish on the other, the latter a pretty compliment to the donor of the portrait, Sir Thomas Jackson. In the S. Andrew's Hall the portrait of Scotland's patron saint and that of the late Duke of Edinburgh were similarly treated, whilst round both halls were suspended the shields of the various Scottish counties. An excellent portrait of the late Hon. Phineas Ryrie, the first President of the Society, was displayed in the Ladies' Room, where hunting was as profuse as elsewhere, and in the Reception Room the guests had provided for their use lounges and easy-chairs; here, too, the work of the Decorations Committee was seen to advantage, but never more so, perhaps, than in the transformation of the Theatre, in effecting which the most liberal use had been made of plants and bunting. On the stage, the horseshoe table at which the President and his distinguished guests sat was beautified by the contrast between its floral ornamentation and the glittering crystal that covered it, whilst, surrounded by an arbour of greenery, the Scottish Coat-of-Arms presented itself prominently to the view. At each end of the stage was placed a howitzer, and everywhere were flowers, plants, and bunting. The effect in the body of the Theatre was also striking, the circle being ornamented with shields bearing the Cross of S. Andrew, the Scottish thistle, and the rampant lion. Altogether the decorations this year were a most pronounced success, thanks to the earnestness of the Committee responsible.

The guests began to assemble just before nine o'clock. H.E. the Governor and party were received by the President, Mr. H. W. Robertson, and preceded by Piper J. E. Sinclair playing "Lord Leven's Grand March" ascended to the ball-rooms. When dancing commenced the spectacle was both animated and picturesque. The first item in the dance programme was "The Lancers," and to the music provided by the Sherwood Foresters the Ball started. The following ladies and gentlemen joined the President's set in the opening dance:—

Mr. H. W. Robertson, Lady Blake; H.E. the Governor, Mrs. H. W. Robertson; Admiral Grenfell, Lady Gascoigne; Major-General Sir W. J. Gascoigne, Lady Goodman; Sir William M. Goodman, Miss Anderson; Commodore Robinson, Mrs. Playfair; Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G.; Mrs. Kidd; Hon. R. Shewan, Mrs. Wood.

This year curtailment had been made in the invitations, and from 1,200 in previous years the attendance at last night's function dropped to between 800 and 900. The result was an agreeable lessening of the crowding that sometimes has characterised the annual gathering of members of the Society, and dancing was made not only possible, but enjoyable as well. The dancing was spiritedly entered into, the music being supplied by the S.F. band and by Piper Sinclair.

The dance programme is appended:—

Lancers	The Gondoliers
Waltz	Soldaten Lieder
Caledonians	My love, she's but a lassie yet
Waltz	Oriana
Eightsome Reel	The de'il among the Tailors
Waltz	Santiago
Caledonians	Scotch Airs
Strathspey and Reel	Cabar Feidh
Waltz	Madame San Gene
Ban Dance	Boston Belle
Polka	Off we go
Waltz	Espana
Highland Schottische	Scotia
Eightsome Reel	Mrs. Macleod of Ramsay
Waltz	The River of Years
Strathspey and Reel, Am Braman air Nan Teilear	

Waltz	Do-an Wellen
Lancers	The Belle of New York
Waltz	Love's Old Sweet Song
Caledonians	Scotch Airs
Waltz	Scotch Beauties
Waltz	Bid me Good-bye
Galop	John Peel

Supper commenced at half-past eleven. At the President's table, in addition to those who participated in the opening set, were the Hon. Sir H. S. Berkeley and Mrs. Robinson, Hon. C. W. Dickson and Mrs. May, Hon. W. Chatham and Mrs. Wyllie, Capt. G. C. Anderson and Mrs. Johnson.

The following was the menu:—

"Some hae meat and canna eat,
And some wad eat that want it!
But we hae meat and we can eat,
And sae the Lord be thank it."

"We'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet, for auld lang syne."

Turtle Soup.	
Saddle of Mutton.	
Roast Turkey.	Pork Ham.
Roast Kobe Beef.	Corned Beef.
Corned Tongue.	Roast Capon.
	Game Pie.
	Sheep's Head Pie.
	Pâté de Foie Gras in Jelly.
Lobster Salad.	Chicken Salad.
Roast Pheasant.	Roast Wild Duck.

THE HAGGIS.

Hot Potatoes.

"Fair fa' your honest sensie face,
Great chieftain o' the puddin' race,
Aboon them a' ye tak' your place."

"Freedom and whisky gang thegither,
Tak' aff your d'ram."

SWEETS.

Gooseberry Tart.	Jam Tartlets.
Puffs.	Jellies.
	Bananas.
Vanilla and Chocolate Ice Creams.	

SCOTCH SHORTBREAD.

After supper the "Sword Dance" was given in the hall by Mr. M. W. Cleveland, whose performance was warmly applauded.

The following telegram was sent to fourteen kindred societies in the East:—

"Chief Robertson and Hongkong brother Scots greet brith'r Scots."—David Wood, Secretary.

The following replies were received:—

From Tientsin:—"Greetings from Tientsin, brith'r Scots."—Stewart, President.

From Shanghai:—"Hail, brith'r Scots."—Lindsay, Secretary.

From Yokohama:—"Chief Stirling and brith'r Scots send greetings."—McClure, Secretary.

From Amoy:—"President McDougall and Scotsmen send greetings to Chief Robertson and brith'r Scots."—McArthur.

From Penang:—"Scots o' Penang greet their brithers."—Park, Secretary.

From Kobe:—"Chief Miller and brith'r Scots send greetings."—Murray, Secretary.

From Foochow:—"Brith'r Scots greet you all."—MacVicar.

From Weihaiwei:—"Brith'r Scots send greetings."—Chief Lockhart.

The Ball was brought to a close by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," and ended a function which in its success falls to rank with the best amongst the annual gatherings of S. Andrew's Society. To the various Committees and to all who took part in the direction of affairs connected with the event praise must be given, for it is only by efforts such as they have expended that a function like S. Andrew's Ball can become an outstanding feature in the social life of a community.

The list of Stewards is as follows:—

Captain G. C. Anderson, W. Armstrong, C.
W. Alexander, Captain J. B. Arbuthnot, H. W.
Borthwick, N. S. Brown, D. E. Brown, E. A.
Bremner, J. W. C. Bonnar, (J. Balloch, W. D.
Braidwood, H. F. Carmichael, T. P. C. Chrane,
Hon. W. Chatham, W. A. Cruickshank, W.
W. Clark, Captain Dixon, Peter Dow, Hon. C.
W. Dickson, George Duncan, A. G. Ewing,
Comm. R. W. Erskine, Andrew Forbes, F. S.
Fulcher, H. W. Fraser, Ian Graham, W. D.
Graham, A. R. Grieve, A. G. Gordon, Dr. R.
Gibson, Dr. Wm. Hunter, J. L. Houston, W.
C. Jack William Kidd, Lord Kelburne, F. H.
Lyon, R. N. A. B. Lowson, D. R. Law, F.
Maitland, D. McDonald (K. & M.), D.
Macdonald (B. & S.), Robert Mitchell, E. J.

Main, J. McCubbin, Captain Milroy, A. C. More, A. Moir, W. J. Newland, Hon. G. W. F. Playfair, W. Parlano, J. Rankin, A. Rodger, H. W. Robertson, Dr. A. Rennie, Arch. Reid, C. H. Ross, S. B. C. Ross, W. Ramsay, Lt. L. P. Stephen, Captain G. W. Simpson, J. Stodart, W. Stopani, Hon. R. Shewan, J. R. M. Smith, Gershom Stewart, A. Sinclair, Hon. C. S. Sharp, Dr. J. C. Thomson, Hon. H. W. F. Trefusis, H. S. Wynne, W. M. Watson, W. Wilson, James Walker, David Wood, and G. M. Young.

The various Committees were made up as follows:—

Invitation Committee.—Hon. W. Chatham, Hon. C. S. Sharp, Hon. C. W. Dickson, Hon. R. Shewan, Hon. G. W. F. Playfair, Dr. Rennie, Messrs. W. Kidd, E. J. Main, W. Wilson, Gershom Stewart, J. R. M. Smith, E. A. Bremner, and David Wood, Hon. Secretary (Convener).

Supper and Wines Committee.—Messrs. Arch. Reid (Convener), W. Kidd, J. L. Houston, H. F. Carmichael, W. Ramsey, P. Dow, A. Moir, W. M. Watson, F. Maitland, A. G. Gordon, A. Forbes, T. P. Cochrane, W. Parlano, G. M. Young, W. D. Braidwood, W. D. Graham, A. C. More, W. Armstrong, A. Rodger, Dr. Hunter, and the Hon. Secretary.

Decoration Committee.—Messrs. W. C. Jack (Convener), N. S. Brown, D. MacDonald, Hugh S. Wynne, W. J. Maitland, Geo. Duncan, A. G. Ewing, A. R. Grieve, J. I. Ickie, J. M. Cubbin, W. G. Simpson (Capt., R. M.), A. J. Souttar (Lieut., R. A.), A. Milroy (Capt.), and the Hon. Secretary.

Dancing and Music Committee.—Messrs. G. C. Anderson (Convener), H. W. Fraser, Gershom Stewart, A. B. Lowson, A. Sinclair, Dr. Rennie, Hon. G. W. F. Trefusis, and the Hon. Secretary.

Card Room Committee.—Messrs. P. Dow (Convener), D. E. Brown, J. W. C. Bonnar, and the Hon. Secretary.

Ladies' Room Committee.—Dr. R. Gibson.

OUR WATER SUPPLY.

PROPOSED NEW RESERVOIR AT TYTAM TUK.

Our representative visited Tytam Tuk a few days ago and had an opportunity of seeing the operations in progress there with a view to the construction of a new reservoir in order to augment the water supply. The work which is being done at present is only of a preliminary nature. Three brick caissons, about 6 feet in diameter, are being sunk at the head of Tytam Bay Inlet at sea-level, and excavation and blasting operations are in progress at both sides of the bay to ascertain whether the site is a suitable one for the construction of a large masonry dam. One of the wells has been sunk to a depth of over 30 feet, and from what we see it must have been a laborious work owing to its being mostly below sea-level. If the site proves suitable and the dam is carried up to a height of 50 feet above sea-level, we understand that it will impound between 1,000 and 1,500 million gallons of water, which will mean almost trebling our existing storage capacity. The proposed reservoir will submerge about 200 acres of ground including the small village of Tytam Tuk and some cultivated land.

The contour survey of this district comprising an area of one square mile is also in progress. A track has been cut round the hills about 200 feet above sea-level and a great deal of undergrowth has had to be cleared. Some trouble has, we understand, been experienced on account of fever breaking out among the staff engaged in this survey. It is to be hoped, however, that the favourable weather which usually prevails at this season of the year will enable the work to be completed. Mr. Isidore Xavier, of the Public Works Department, is now engaged in surveying the district, which is considered one of the worst places in the Colony for malarial fever. The scenery around the district is highly picturesque.

The rails of the Selangor-Perak Railway are now laid for 17 miles beyond Tanjong Malim, and the contractors on the Selangor side have only 5 miles more to make. That should be finished in about three months. It is hoped that the through route—Port Swettenham to Prai—may be complete by the middle of next year.

OPENING OF THE HANOI EXPOSITION.

A very belated telegram, which had been sent over Chinese landlines, and was dated Hanoi, 16th ult., arrived on the 27th ult. and stated that the Exposition was successfully opened on the 16th ult., in the presence of an immense gathering of people. Monsieur Thomé, the Commissaire-General, received the Governor of Indo-China and welcomed the delegates from the countries of the Extreme Orient, the French colonies and the metropolis. Monsieur Beau, the Governor-General thanked the foreign governments for having so cordially responded to the invitation, and declared the Exposition open.

Among those present at the ceremony were General Coronat, commanding the troops; Admiral Bayle, commanding the Far Eastern squadron; Monsieur Broni, resident-general; all the head officials and representatives of public bodies, and the Tartai of Lungchow and many Annamite mandarins. The Governor-General and party were conducted over the Exposition by Monsieur Thomé, and recorded their great appreciation of what they saw. A military tattoo was held in the evening, and at 7.30 p.m. the Governor-General gave a banquet to the Commissaire-General and the chief of the service of the Exposition, the delegates to the Exposition and the chief officials of the local administration. At the end of the repast he announced the receipt of a telegram from the President of the Republic conferring the cross of the Legion of Honour on M. Thomé.

Among the savants who left Hongkong by the s.s. *Hue*, for the Congress of Orientalists at Hanoi were M. Baelz, physician to the Mikado; Baron de Ritter, Baron Corvisart, Colonel de Grandprey; Professor Leavenworth; and others.

SALVAGE OF THE S.S. "PHRA NANG."

The N.D.L. s.s. *Machew* which left here on the 14th ult., with a salvage party on board to save the N.D.L. s.s. *Phra Nang* that had gone ashore on the Paracels, returned to Hongkong on the 24th ult. with the damaged steamer in tow.

On the salvaging steamer were Captain Krebs, marine superintendent of the North German Lloyd; Mr. J. Watt Jameson, of the London Salvage Association; and Mr. T. G. Doyle, the chief diver. Heavy pumping and other apparatus was taken down. The *Machew* arrived at the Paracels on the 16th inst. at 1 p.m. and found the *Phra Nang* aground on a coral reef on Priton Island, the south-western island of the group. On account of strong wind and current great difficulty was experienced in getting alongside the *Phra Nang*, her fore part being aground and the stern afloat in deep water. Examination showed that the fore-hold was full of water and No. 2 hold making water. She had then been on the reef for 16 days. The captain, officers and the crew were on board all that time.

A start was at once made with the work of salvage. Centrifugal pumps were put on board the stranded vessel, a 12in. and 10in. in the fore-hold and a 10in. in No. 2 hold. Her engines were got ready and the cargo was transhipped to the *Machew*. Mr. Doyle tried to examine the ship's bottom but was unsuccessful as it was imbedded too deeply in the coral. The following day at 5 o'clock the pumps were at work and at 5 p.m. on the 18th, Captain Krebs decided to attempt to get the *Phra Nang* off as it was apparent the pumps had command of the water. The *Machew* began towing and the other worked her engines astern. The vessel refused to budge for some time and at one point the *Machew* came near to going ashore herself and had to cast off the cables about 8 p.m. The *Phra Nang* was loosened by the force, however, and she came afloat at 9 p.m. after her own engines had been working astern and ahead alternately for the whole time. On account of a heavy N.E. monsoon prevailing it was decided not to go to Hongkong direct, but to make for Touron Bay, Annam, 180 miles distant. Both vessels steamed slowly and arrived there on the 20th. Here the *Machew* gave supplies of water and coal to the *Phra Nang* and Mr. Doyle made a thorough inspection of the bottom, finding

rivets gone and leanings started; these were blocked up temporarily. On the 22nd the vessels left for Hongkong and got here yesterday at 2 p.m. Great credit is due to all concerned for the expeditious and clever manner in which the salvage was accomplished.

The *Phra Nang* is now in dock.

ENQUIRY INTO COLLAPSES OF HOUSES.

KOWLOON CITY ROAD.

At the Magistracy on the 24th ult. the enquiry into the fatal house collapse in Kowloon City Road was resumed before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Police Magistrate and a common jury. Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, appeared for the Crown; Mr. H. W. Looker, solicitor, represented the architects (Messrs. Leigh & Orange), and Mr. C. D. Wilkinson, solicitor, the contractors (the Loong Cheong firm).

F. T. H. Hewett, building surveyor attached to the R.E., said he had been in Hongkong since June, 1901. He had inspected these houses in Kowloon City Road on the 2nd September, since when he had been there many times. Generally the materials of the houses on the two lots appeared to be good. The bricks were not of uniform size. That was caused, he thought, by the fact that they had been got from different people; if different kinds were mixed the construction would be bad, because the bonding could not be properly carried out. The lime used was ordinary shell lime, as used in Hongkong. Such lime was not good. The red earth used in the mortar of the houses was good, probably taken from the hill at the back of the houses. He secured samples on 30th September or 1st October. These samples were given to Mr. Denny and afterwards analysed. It was very fair mortar. He did not agree with the theory that the collapse was caused by the softening of the mortar by rain. He thought the external walls of Nos. 30 and 32 should have been thicker, having regard to their length. In building a wall it should be carried up at a uniform rate of progress; one part should not be advanced considerably higher than another; the usual specification in Hongkong in this connection was for three feet. A result of building unevenly would be that the wall would not settle equally and weak places would appear. It took two or three months for a wall to settle. Broadly speaking it was impossible in Hongkong to get a wall built uniformly. The witness went on to give evidence concerning the string courses in the wall. He was of opinion that both the string courses and the corbelling should be of cement mortar. When ordinary mortar was used, these portions of the walls were generally, if not always, bad, owing to faulty construction and bad workmanship. There was no provision in the Ordinances for the employment of cement mortar, but there was such a proposal in the new Building Bill.

Mr. Looker objected to the witness dealing in his evidence with a Bill which was not yet passed and which might yet have amendments made upon it.

Mr. Bowley said he took it that one of the objects of the enquiry was to find out what should be done to improve matters in this connection.

His Worship remarked that the Court was enquiring how the men who were killed lost their lives and whether anybody should be punished.

The witness further stated, in continuation of his evidence, that the spaces from face to face of the walls ought also to be in cement mortar. To make a good job of these walls they should have been filled with cement, especially when brick on edge on one side of the wall met brick flat on the other, rendering proper bonding quite impossible for at least five courses in height. With regard to the specification for these houses, he would not condemn it because it was not provided that these courses should be in cement. He was not prepared to say that before the collapses he would have done better than anybody else. In view of recent experiences he did not think that the specifications were sufficient. The corbelling of the party wall was omitted to allow the passage of a stair. From the whole of these observations he was of opinion that the outer walls of Nos.

30 and 32 were weak from construction of the corbelling and string courses and this in effect gave one of these walls an outward tendency; this outward tendency was aided by a similar tendency in the party wall owing to the corbelling being omitted on one side of the wall only; these tendencies gradually developed between the building and the day of the collapse and materially contributed to it, the immediate cause being the typhoon wind.

The enquiry was then adjourned.

THEATRE ROYAL.

"THE LADY OF OSTEND."

Laughter may aptly be described as the music of our lives, and for the song of laughter given to the world in *The Lady of Ostend*, Mr. F. C. Burnand, the author, has an undoubted claim on our gratitude. Best known as editor of *London Punch*, Mr. Burnand has nevertheless gained prominence in the literature of light comedy by the highly interesting productions of his facile pen, and amongst these none ranks higher than that staged at the Theatre Royal on the 24th ult. by the Janet Waldorf Company. Although Sir Francis Burnand, to give the veteran journalist and playwright his correct title, has for some years past followed the life rather of a literary reclus, his ability has in no way deteriorated, and in the play under review his old easy grip of humorous material, conjoined with the faculty of turning it to the best account, is seen to excellent advantage.

Whilst it may not be said that the author has broken new ground in *The Lady of Ostend*, for in light comedy as in all other conceptions of the playwright a certain conventional line is observed and usually as strictly followed, the story is distinguished by what may be termed a series of lucid progressions, which combine with the increasingly humorous situations and the pronounced types of the characters to provide capital entertainment. From the rise of the curtain and on unbrokenly to its fall, the drollery of the comedy is easily apparent to every one, and no mental strain is required to follow with exactitude the varying fortunes of the participants. It may reasonably be assumed that the mission of farcical comedy is to amuse without bewildering, and in *The Lady of Ostend* that mission is creditably achieved.

To glance for a moment at the piece, which is one of three acts, the action takes place in the house of Mr. Dick Whortles, who, during a previous trip to Ostend, has been caught by the camera in a *tête-à-tête* with an unknown lady on the beach. Impelled by fate, he subsequently takes his wife and mother-in-law to an exhibition of living pictures whereat this particular scene is presented as No. 9 on the card. The result, of course, may readily be imagined, for Mrs. Whortles and the mother-in-law recognise the portrait, and the inevitable trouble follows. As though the dome-tic atmosphere were not already sufficiently sultry, the husband of the unknown lady, a pugilist of unmistakable speech and temper, commences a furious quest for the original of the male figure in the picture, and the predicament in which Mr. Whortles finds himself strikes his friends as being extremely ludicrous, as of course it is—to all but the unhappy man himself. Amongst those who rejoice over his discomfort no one is more hilarious than the Baron de Longueville, whose triumph, however, is short-lived, for the succeeding picture on the cinematograph reveals himself disappearing in the sea in company with Whortles's *inamorata*, whilst Mr. Carbury, Dick's father-in-law, discovers that he also has fallen a victim to the inquisitiveness of the apparatus. All these complications provide unlimited merriment for the audience, and the laughter that rang through the house found its echo when the enraged husband of the fickle lady of Ostend wreaks summary vengeance on the furniture in the Whortles's drawing-room, which he reduces to wreckage.

The bare outline of the story can convey only a faint idea of its current of interest, which was admirably maintained in the dramatisation of the Janet Waldorf Company. Interest and close attention waited upon the performance throughout the entire evening, and the applause was continuous and hearty. As to the parts taken by the individual members of the Company, the impersonation of the Baron de Longueville lay in the capable hands of Mr. Norval McGregor, whose ability and versatility as an actor had telling proof in his portrayal of "the man with a rattling past." The nature of the part makes it a difficult one to depict, but Mr. McGregor's response to the demand made upon him was entirely satisfactory, and earned commendation on all hands. Those who have seen Miss Janet Waldorf as Josephine in *A Royal Divorce* need not be told that on the present occasion she at once impressed the spectators with a renewed sense of her powers by her appearance as Dorothy Whortles, a rôle in which she showed to decided advantage in a new line of dramatic enterprise—new, at least, to Hongkong theatre-goers. Throughout the play she acted just as we have come to expect her to act, and imparted to a comparatively colourless part an importance all its own. The adventures of the erring Dick Whortles were finely illustrated by Mr. William Tichett, and Mr. Wilson Forbes as ably represented Joseph Carbury, the father-in-law of Whortles, and an individual with a propensity for nocturnal roving. Mrs. Dow Currier acted with distinction in the rôle of Mrs. Carbury, and imparted no small force to the action of the piece. The remark applies also to Miss Mildred York, who enjoyed only very fugitive opportunities but used them to the best advantage. The blustering Toby Crockett the husband of the Lady of Ostend, lost none of his idiosyncracies in his representation by Mr. Jean de Lacy, and the parts assigned to Miss Amy Stanley, Miss Edith Hays, Mr. Arthur Elton and Mr. St. Clair Byfield had ample justice done them.

Regarding the scenery, the Company were in this respect more fortunate than in *A Royal Divorce*, when the limitations of the stage made themselves greatly felt. The scenery used in *The Lady of Ostend* is admirably adapted to the accommodation of the theatre, and thus nothing was lost in scenic effect. Yesterday evening's was the first appearance the Company has made in this particular comedy, but despite that fact everything went with the smoothness of the proverbial mill-pond, and the audience, which quite filled the house, demonstrated its appreciation by the volume of its plaudits. A ballet was gracefully danced during the evening, the music for which was composed by Mr. Hal. Lindsay Campbell, the able director of the orchestra.

HONGKONG NURSING ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The second annual meeting of the Hongkong Nursing Association was held on 25th ult. in the City Hall. Dr. F. O. Stedman, president, presided and there were also present:—Lady Blake, Sir William Meigh Goodman, Lady Goodman (hon. secretary), Dr. R. M. Gibson, Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Harling, Mrs. May, Mrs. Siebs, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Stedman, Mrs. Grist, Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Gompertz, Mrs. Danby, and Mrs. Whitlow.

The PRESIDENT said—Ladies and gentlemen, The report of the Committee and the statement of accounts from the treasurer are before you, and as I have very little to add to what is stated in the report, I do not propose to detain you with a long speech. I may say that the Institution is filling a great want in the Colony and from a doctor's point of view at least I do not know how we should be able to get on without it, and I think that the same may be said from the patients' point of view also. At present the fees that are being charged for the services of the nurses are comparatively low—much lower, I believe, than those which are charged in Shanghai; but the Committee have

thought it wise to keep the fees as low as is consistent with making the Institution pay its way, so as to bring the services of the nurses within the means of as many persons as possible. It appears at our present rates that the Institution is just able to meet its current expenses, but as we are paying our nurses a sterling salary, I am afraid that with the present low dollar we may find that we shall have to somewhat raise the fees in the near future. The fact that we have been able to carry on the Institution and make it pay its way is, to me, eminently satisfactory; but you must remember that although we have thus earned enough to pay our working expenses, at present we are not able to put by anything to pay for passage money. Both our present nurses are on a three years' agreement at the end of which time we have to pay half their passages home (if they stay five years we pay their full passage home), so that in rather less than two years from now we shall have to find enough money to pay two half-passages home and two full passages out for two new nurses, and we think that we ought to be in a position to do this without seriously drawing on the guarantee fund, and for that purpose it will be necessary to institute an annual subscription. We think that an annual subscription of \$10 will be sufficient to keep the Institution afloat, if we can get 60 or 70 subscribers to support the Institution, and this would, I think, be easily possible. Failing this it seems that the Institution must after a few years become bankrupt, as our small guarantee fund would soon be exhausted in paying passages. As is stated in the report, at present the Committee think that two nurses are sufficient for the needs of the Colony. Our nurses have had a good many days off duty during the year, and the secretary has only on two occasions been unable to supply a nurse when one was asked for; so that we think that at present a third nurse would not be able to earn enough to cover her salary and the expenses of her board and lodging. I should like to thank the present Committee for the support they have given me during the past year, and especially Lady Goodman for the care and trouble she has given to the secretaryship, and also Dr. Fraser, who has kindly acted as honorary treasurer.

Sir WILLIAM MEIGH GOODMAN moved the adoption of the report, which was as follows:— "The Committee have pleasure in presenting the second annual report and statement of accounts from the 1st of October, 1901, to the 30th September, 1902, to subscribers. During the whole of this time the Institution has had the benefit of the services of Nurse Gray and Nurse Hair, who have been actually engaged in nursing for 257 and 29 days respectively. This clearly shows the need of a Nursing Institution in the Colony, and that the services of trained nurses are both required and appreciated. At present it would appear that two nurses are sufficient to meet the needs of the community, as upon two occasions only was the Institution unable to send a nurse in response to a request to do so. During the period under review rules for the guidance of the nurses and their patients have been drawn up. It will be seen from the statement of accounts that the Committee has been able to repay the sum of \$190.34, out of the \$2,717, which it was necessary to borrow from the guarantee fund to meet the expenditure of last year, and that the receipts have been sufficient to meet the working expenses of the present year. The Committee, however, beg to call attention to the fact that the nurses are here on a three years' agreement only, and that at the end of that time the cost of two half-passages home, and two passages out, will have to be met; this is estimated to be about \$1,800 representing \$600 a year, which must be raised by subscription. In accordance with rule 7 it rests with the annual meeting to fix the amount of the subscription for the ensuing year, 1902-3, and the Committee venture to hope that subscribers will come forward in sufficient numbers to enable this useful Institution to carry on its work without diminishing the guarantee fund, which it is most desirable to preserve intact, in order to meet such contingencies as may from time to time arise. The Committee recommend that the subscription for the coming year be fixed at \$10. The sum to the credit of the guarantee fund stood at \$4,270.29 on 1st October, 1902,

of which \$3,000 was invested in Hongkong Club debentures bearing interest at 6 per cent., \$1,000 on fixed deposit, and the balance \$270.29 was to the credit of the Institution in current account with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. The Honorary Secretary, Mrs. Dickson, having resigned in February on leaving for England, Lady Goodman kindly undertook the duties of that post. Mrs. Siebs, Mrs. Ritchie, and Mrs. Slade also resigned their places on the Committee, which have been filled by Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Tomes, and Mrs. Turner. The members of the Committee in accordance with the rules, beg to tender their resignation, and being eligible offer themselves for re-election. The Institution, remarked Sir WILLIAM, was a most admirable one, as a great many persons in the Colony could testify by their experience. During the past year the care and excellent nursing they had received were very different to what it would have been had they been left to the tender mercies of ignorant or careless Chinese. It was an excellent Institution and should commend itself to the people of the Colony.

Mrs. MAY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDENT said they had now to consider the amount of the subscription for the ensuing year. The Committee had recommended that it should be \$10, which, they believed, would enable the Institution to pay its way.

Sir WILLIAM MEIGH GOODMAN moved a resolution that the subscription be \$10. There was no doubt, he said, looking at the report, that the step was necessary. The passages of the nurses between England and Hongkong were a very heavy item; and they must be met. He trusted there would be sufficient support and that it would not be necessary to increase the subscription beyond \$10.

Mrs. SIEBS seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The officers and Committee were re-elected, with the exception of Mrs. Harling, who retired, her place on the Committee being taken by Mrs. Siebs.

The meeting then separated.

AN EPISODE OF TONKIN.

The coming departure of Cav. Volpicelli, the Italian Consul-General for the Oriental Congress at Hanoi, Tonkin, recalls what—for recently events have followed quickly in the Far East—seems an incident of ancient history; because his travels in that country were connected with an interesting episode of the Franco-Chinese question.

After the hostilities between the two countries had been momentarily suspended, thanks to the brilliant coup of Commander (now Admiral) Fournier who rushed through a treaty of peace at Tientsin, the sad misunderstanding at Langson provoked fresh military operations. The war, or "state of reprisals" as it was called by diplomatists, dragged on for many months with great mutual loss with scant results, until it was definitely stopped by the armistice concluded at Paris by Mr. Campbell on behalf of the Chinese Government. At the time, the armistice was received with great suspicion by the French military authorities, and with doubt of its ultimate success by all, for the memory of the failure of Commander Fournier's Treaty was fresh in every memory.

The Chinese, who were sincerely desirous for peace, also feared that some accident might again frustrate their hopes, and were anxious that their military authorities at the seat of war should promptly receive clear and certain instructions to commence evacuation at the dates assigned by the armistice. For this purpose an Imperial Commission composed of Messrs. Volpicelli, Woodruff and four civil and military Mandarins was sent by the Viceroy of Canton Chang Chih-tung (now Acting Viceroy at Nanking) to the camps of the Chinese troops in Tonkin to communicate the Imperial Edict of immediate withdrawal.

This mission was carried out fully and promptly. Mr. Volpicelli was away from Canton only a month, much of which was wasted in inevitable delays for steamers that then did not run so frequently to Haiphong, and in slow travelling by gunboat up the swift rivers. Still

in that short time, amidst difficulties and dangers, the Chinese camps were reached, the evacuation was ordered (it commenced at Hong Hoa two days before the date assigned) and there was a balance of a few days for the *fêtes* which awaited the Commission at its return to Hanoi, where it was cordially received by the hitherto suspicious General Brié de l'Isle.

The work of the Commission was very arduous, but it was rewarded by the results achieved: it found a country suffering from the calamities of war and left it showing the first promises of returning prosperity. Mr. Volpicelli, who may be considered the only survivor of the Commission, for most if not all of the Mandarins are dead and Mr. Woodruff left for America many years ago, will have now the additional pleasure of revisiting the country after 17 years' work of transformation, and of contemplating in the Hanoi Exhibition the full bloom of that prosperity which was just budding in the days immediately following the evacuation of the Chinese troops.

OBSEQUIES OF LIU KUNG-YI.

Nanking, 16th November.

It was most fitting that the foreign consuls in Shanghai should desire to show in more than usually open manner the respect they had for the dead Minister, and it was arranged, out of this expressed desire, the united Consular Body of Shanghai, together with representatives of the two foreign Municipalities and of the China and American Associations, should proceed to Nanking in a body on one of the occasions when, according to Chinese funeral ideas, it is becoming, and there personally show their respect. The commanding officers of the various navies having fleets in these waters also decided to take part and show their gratitude. These resulted in a gathering at Nanking on Saturday, the 15th of November, of a fleet and collection of foreign Consular officials which has never been equalled, and which it will probably be long ere it is excelled.

THE FLEET.

Before the date mentioned there had arrived off Nanking H.B.M. despatch boat *Alacrity*, the flagship of Vice-Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge, K.C.B. in command of the China Station, and H.B.M. men-of-war *Eclipse*, *Bramble* and *Rosario*, H.G.M.S.S. *Hansa* and *Seeadler*, the French men-of-war *Pascal* and *Décidée*, the American cruiser *Helena*, the Austrian ironclad *Kaiser Karl VI*, Japanese, besides several Chinese men-of-war, and the Customs cruiser *Liu-Hsing*. Mr. R. W. Mansfield, H.B.M. Acting Consul-General at Shanghai came up on the *Alacrity*, while by various other vessels Mr. R. E. Bredor, Deputy Inspector-General of Customs, Mr. F. E. Taylor, Statistical Secretary of Customs, Mr. W. V. Drummond, and others from Shanghai had already reached this capital.

SHANGHAI'S VISITORS.

Shortly after 7 o'clock the Chinese steamer *Haeen*, Captain Wallace, which had been placed at the disposal of the Consular body, came into the harbour and made fast alongside the Government hulk. The party aboard consisted of Dr. Knappe (who through the regrettable illness of Mr. J. Goodnow, U.S. and Senior Consul, acted as *doyen*) Mr. Ratard, Consul-General for France, and his wife, Mr. von Hirsch and wife, Mr. Avocat, Consul-General for the Netherlands, and wife, Mr. Gottwald, Austrian Consul, and wife, Colonel Diguët (French) and wife, Mr. D. Siffer, Belgian Consul-General, Mr. F. Hagberg, Swedish Consul-General, Dr. Barchet, U. S. Consulate, Mr. Mercklinghaus, German Consular Service, and interpreter, Mr. Castilho Spanish Consul-General, Mr. P. Muller, Mr. H. R. Kienear, representing the International Settlement of Shanghai, M. A. Brunat, President of the French Municipality, Mr. J. N. Jameson, representing the American Association, Mr. C. J. Dudgeon, representing the China Association, and M. M. Tillot and de Cordon.

Almost following the *Haeen* H. Italian M.'s fine cruiser *Lombardia*, having on board Mr. E. Ghisi, representing His Majesty, came into harbour, and at 8 o'clock this vessel was saluted by all the saluting men-of-war in port. H.I.J.M.'s ironclad *Idzumi* shortly followed the above named vessel, conveying Mr. Odagiri, Japanese Consul-General at Shanghai.

THE PROGRAMME.

Shortly after the arrival of this party on the *Haeen*, Mr. J. C. Ferguson, Foreign Adviser of H. E. S. eng, on behalf of the Viceroy (whose cards had previously been presented) arrived on board and explained to these official guests the arrangements regarding the various ceremonies, at the same time seeing to the distribution of the official invitations from H. E. the Viceroy to an entertainment in the evening. These arrangements included the reception by H. E. the Viceroy of the Naval and Military visitors at his temporary yamen at 10 o'clock, the reception of Vice-Admiral Bridge and staff at 10.30, the reception of the Shanghai Consular and Municipal Representatives at 11, and the return of the admiral's call at the British consulate at 11.30 and that of the Representatives at the Bureau of Foreign Affairs at 12 o'clock.

RECEPTION OF ADMIRAL BRIDGE.

Carriages were provided by His Excellency for all of his numerous guests, and this programme was punctually carried out. His Excellency, the aged viceroy Chang Chih-tung, received his guests with becoming dignity, accompanying them to the large gates of his yamen between files of well set up and sturdy looking, foreign drilled and armed soldiers standing at the present, with fanfares blowing. The Viceroy shows evident signs of age, his moustache and beard both being snow white, though his eyes still look sharply and searchingly into those of the person addressed, and he walked firmly and erectly without assistance.

RECEPTION OF SHANGHAI REPRESENTATIVES.

At the reception of the Consular Body Dr. Knappe, as spokesman, expressed the sincere regrets felt by that body at the death of the illustrious ruler, whose posthumous title is translated as Duke Liu, adding that it gave them all confidence in the future that so able and well known a successor should have been appointed in his stead. H.E., in reply, thanked the visitors for the trouble they had been put to in expressing their regards for his predecessor, which he said would be highly treasured by his late colleague's family and friends. He also returned thanks for the kind words spoken regarding himself, assured all that he would endeavour to continue the policy of his old friend and predecessor, and expressed the hope that the future might see even closer relations than the existing ones established between the countries represented and his own.

THE VISITS RETURNED.

A short drive from the yamen conveyed Shanghai's portion of the many guests to the Bureau of Foreign Affairs, where liquid refreshments and cigars and cigarettes were served while awaiting the arrival of H.E. Promptly at 12 o'clock this punctual ruler arrived, seated in a brougham designed as nearly as possible to counterfeit the official Chinese chair in outward appearance. This was drawn by two ponies, and was preceded and followed by a mounted bodyguard. After greeting all those assembled, H.E. thanked them all most cordially for the pains they were taking to show their respect for his predecessor, and also for the courtesy they had shown him upon his taking up his new post. Dr. Knappe, as *doyen*, suitably replied, expressing the hope that H.E. might have good health and great prosperity during a long tenure of his office. Following this there was a short period of informal conversation. Dr. Knappe expressed the hope that now that H.E. had taken control in these provinces the railway from Shanghai to Nanking might be looked forward to with some certainty, adding that it would greatly facilitate travelling and making official visits. H.E., while admitting the utility of railways, smilingly added that they had their drawbacks. He explained this by saying that the 3,000 officials under him might more frequently call upon him and "bother" him if they could do so in a few hours instead of a few days, as is now the case.

The return drive of six miles from the yamen to the steamer landing, over the system of really good roads, gave the visitors another opportunity of admiring H.E.'s ability and enterprise. Fairly broad, well macadamised and excellently kept, with stone-paved footpaths on either side, these open up the interior of the "Southern Capital" as no other Chinese city has ever been. They must serve as an admirable example of

what can be done in the most conservative towns, to the thousands of officials who regularly make pilgrimages to this provincial seat. If by any chance his example be followed by even a few, Chang Chih-tung's name should deservedly go down to posterity in a halo of grateful memory. It was currently reported during this visit that already H.E. has begun extending the system of roads, and that a section some few hundred feet in length was being built in a great hurry in order to permit of his being driven in his carriage to a temple which he was to officially visit on the 17th inst.

THE EVENING RECEPTION.

On Saturday evening His Excellency received all foreign visitors to the Port, in the Military College. These guests included Vice-Admiral Bridge and his staff, the captains and officers of all the men-of-war in harbour, these including British, German, American, Japanese, Italian, and Austrian, besides officers from his own fleet, the Consular, Municipal and Commercial representatives mentioned above, besides Customs officials and other foreign members of his Government. The entrance courts and the central hall of the College had been turned into a veritable chrysanthemum show for the occasion, the central hall containing an exceptionally fine mass of these beautiful blossoms. The large class-room on the right was used as the reception-room, and there each of the guests were presented to their host in turn, H.E. having a few appropriate words of greeting for each one. H.E. must have had a trying time considering his age, as he was kept standing for a full hour going through this ceremony.

THE BANQUET.

At 6 o'clock sharp the guests were all lined up and followed their host across the central courtyard into the large hall on the left, which had been converted for the occasion into a very spacious banquet hall. Down the centre of this was a long table, with cross tables at each end. H.E. sat at the centre of the main table, with Admiral Bridge and Dr. Knapp as the senior naval and consular officials respectively, on each side of him. The military and naval officers of all nationalities sat on one side of the table, consular officials and others on the other. The guests were thoroughly divided as to nationality and the large number of Chinese high officials and interpreters, together with the consular representatives resident at Nanking, brought the number seated around the board to seventy-eight. The table arrangements had been made with considerable skill, while the decorations, principally composed of chrysanthemum blossoms, added considerably to the beauty of the scene. The very large number of officials present, all in their very brightest costumes, made the scene an exceptionally brilliant one.

The dishes composing the menu were served in either Chinese or foreign styles, the two classes of food being alternated, eleven courses and dessert completing the whole. Just after an intermission which marked the middle of the meal His Excellency rose, as did his guests and His Excellency asked those present to drink the health and prosperity of Her Majesty the Empress-Dowager and His Majesty the Emperor. This being duly honoured, he proposed the health, long life, and prosperity of the various sovereigns and rulers represented around his table, expressing the hope that their presence there that evening was but one of the many occasions on which he might see them as their mutual good relations continued and improved, and finally he drank to the health of all his visitors, to whom he returned thanks for their presence in Nanking as a mark of respect for his deceased friend and predecessor, as well as for the courtesy they had shown him upon his arrival at his new post.

Admiral Bridge, the senior guest, responded briefly on behalf of the others present. He expressed the appreciation of all at the numerous courtesies shown them by H.E. even at a time when he must be unusually busy with his own affairs, and added the best wishes of all present that he might have good health to enable him to rule long and successfully over his new dominions. This was most heartily responded to by all present.

The banquet was not finished until well after 9 o'clock. At its conclusion H.E. again headed the guests in leaving the room and returning to the reception-room.

After a brief inspection of the cadets of the military school, drawn up in the court yard, all bade their host good night and a return to their various homes was made.

THE FUNERAL.

Sunday, the 17th day of the moon, having been decided upon as a propitious day for removing the mortal remains of the late Viceroy Liu Kung-yi from his old yamen, great preparations had been made. The gates of his yamen, and the entrance courts had been draped with immense masses of white cloth in the proper shapes and designs, while the body lying in state in its immense coffin had been surrounded for weeks by often changed relays of priests and personal attendants. Thither had come all the more important of the thousands of officials who had served under his late Excellency, performing the prescribed ceremonies and leaving as a record of their visits obituary offerings of suitable kinds. Hither also had arrived the thousands of tokens of respect and sorrow from the still greater number of friends and co-workers of the great Viceroy who had completed his mundane duties. All the honour which etiquette and honest sorrow combined could suggest to the Chinese mind had been done in honour of the remains, and all was ready for the final act, the beginning of that pilgrimage whose conclusion will be marked by the Chinese equivalent of "Ashes to ashes, earth to earth." On that day the coffin was removed from the old home of the deceased, to make the first stage on the journey to that ancestral home near which it will finally rest.

This was the event to attend which so many distinguished foreign officials and representatives had made the journey to Nanking. By 9.30, the previously arranged hour, the Naval and Military officers, the Consular Body from Shanghai, and the representatives of the Foreign population of that city, had assembled at the yamen of the dead ruler, and had expressed their appreciation of the worth of the dead statesman in appropriate manner. They having expressed the desire to accompany the remains a short distance on their last journey, the place of honour, immediately before the personal relatives of the dead Viceroy, was accorded them, and they walked in procession from the yamen of the deceased, past the temporary yamen of his successor, and a short distance further, as the last means of showing their respect for the memory of one of the twain who had done so much to make foreign life possible along the Yangtze.

THE FUNERAL CORTEGE.

Promptly at 9.30 a.m. the first portion of the procession was seen approaching. This consisted of a long double line of youths, dressed in long yellow vestments, preceding a number of processional chairs, also decorated with yellow funeral cloth containing large red lacquered tablets with inscriptions in gold. Following these were carried some ten paper representations of mythical personages, standing ten or twelve high, which in turn were followed by a large canopied chair decorated in red, yellow, and green. The next section of the procession consisted of fully one hundred of those red boards with inscriptions, such as are always carried in greater or less numbers by every official when in state. The bearers were all clad outwardly in white gowns having the monogram of the deceased printed on them in light blue. They were succeeded by a huge number of runners, some in black with high pointed caps, carrying swords, and more in white carrying the mystical long-handled curved swords, clubs, tridents, and other symbols of the manifold offices held by the deceased. Then came in long procession an outward symbol of the respect felt for the late aged ruler by those under him. This consisted of no less than sixty-two huge honorific umbrellas, of various coloured silk, the apex of each being the stork, that bird so closely connected in Chinese mind with funeral needs. The hanging curtain to each umbrella had perpendicular inscriptions right around, while this was in turn supplemented by a kind of fringe, composed of strips of silk, two inches wide and half the length of the curtain, each strip having also some appropriate text printed on it. This display of umbrellas produced a great impression upon the thousands of Chinese of all classes who were packed tight in every part of the wide road through which the procession passed.

There was a break in the line after this, and the procession was resumed by a very long line of Buddhist priests, clothed in the usual parti-coloured robes of red and gray, preceded and followed by two long inscribed blue streamers held aloft, and a narrow blue umbrella. Shortly after this the main portion of the pageant began slowly to pass. First came a company of the late Viceroy's soldiers, in semi-foreign costume, armed with rifles, with fixed bayonets, carried on the shoulder. They escorted a large chair, draped in white, wherein was exposed a hand-painted portrait of the deceased, which was in turn followed by first the officers of Liu Kung-yi's foreign drilled troops (Chinese) and next of the immense number of small officials and yamen runners who had served under His Excellency. After this came a line of amusing paper figures, carried by small boys, who caused much merriment during their progress. They were succeeded by a very great number of superior Chinese officials, clothed in official robes and wearing all the insignia of their rank. These latter followers were within the long lines of white cloth which extended from either side of the coffin supported by runners and soldiers whose duty it was to keep back the crowds. Following these Chinese officials came all the official foreign visitors, headed by Admiral Bridge and Dr. Knapp, nearly all of these gentlemen being in full uniform. These in turn were followed by a large official chair draped in white even to the metal button on top, a number of musicians blowing the long trumpets which always accompany a coffin, and other yamen personal servants. Next came another company of the dead satrap's foreign drilled bodyguard, in blue uniforms with black facings, followed by another long line of Chinese officials in full dress, and a few more paper figures. The deceased's official chair was carried after these, it being in turn followed by the relatives of the deceased, all dressed in coarse white cloth and looking unshaven and distressed.

Then came the coffin itself, borne by sixty-four bearers, many of whom wore official hats. The catafalque itself was completely hidden under a large square canopy of dark blue velvet, embroidered in gold thread with emblematical figures and long lines of text. This was in turn surmounted by a huge stork at its apex.

As this grand catafalque was carried slowly through the closely packed masses of people lining the sides of the roadway, a hush fell upon all for the moment, making the spectacle an impressive one. This practically completed the ceremony, as only a few chairs carrying female relatives and young children, all in white, followed the coffin.—*Shanghai Mercury*.

FOOCHOW.

The following items are from the *Foochow Echo* of the 13th inst.:

It is with the deepest regret that we record the death of Mr. Charles Gray of the Imperial Chinese Postal Service, at the early age of 37, which occurred on Thursday, the 13th inst. Mr. Gray, after a somewhat varied career, joined the Chinese Customs Service in 1891, and on the inauguration of the Chinese Postal Service, was installed Asst. Postal Officer, in charge of the district, in which position he remained up to death. The heart trouble which carried him off did not manifest itself until a little more than a year ago, and Mr. Gray in spite of increasing weakness manfully stuck to his work until less than a fortnight ago, when he was carried to the hospital, since when his falling away was very rapid. Mr. Gray was a most deservedly popular man in the port, as was evinced by the large attendance at the funeral yesterday, which included several of the Pagoda Anchorage residents.

The Autumn Chrysanthemum and Flower Show was held on Saturday, November 8th, and a very pleasant afternoon was provided not only to lovers of flowers but to the public in general. The recreation ground was bright with a display of bloom, and the flowers exhibited showed that the standard of excellence attained by our local horticulturists was certainly not on the wane. The Viceroy's band played during the afternoon and tea was provided. Altogether the Autumn show was an unqualified success, and the committee is to be congratulated.

A very delightful gymkhana was given by H.B.M. Consul, Mr. Playfair on the afternoon of November 10th. It was the gymkhana of May 30th, which was drowned out, brought to life again, and it must be admitted it did not suffer by keeping. Fortune favoured Mr. Playfair on this occasion, for the weather was everything that could be desired. It is rumoured that our worthy Consul had been offering chin-chin's and burning joss-sticks to the Clerk of the Weather for a week beforehand. [Among the results of the races we notice that Mr. G. H. Ardron, late of Hongkong, won the "potato and bucket" race, with three potatoes to spare from Mr. Skene-Knox.]

A Cinderella dance was held at the Club on Monday night, November 10th, by the British members of the Foochow Club in celebration of the King's birthday. A large number of the chrysanthemums exhibited at the Flower Show were kindly lent for the decoration of the room, and the result was much admired.

Turf Notes.—By next Saturday we shall have some Shanghai flyers on the course. We hear that *Hermes*, *Manchu*, *The Miner* and another are coming, and our veterans will have to stretch themselves.

VLADIVOSTOCK.

Vladivostock, 11th November.
CHINESE EASTERN RAILWAY'S STEAMSHIP SERVICE.

The Committee of the local Stock Exchange is in receipt of a communication from the steamship department of the Chinese Eastern Railway to the effect that the company intends to discontinue its direct regular service between Vladivostock, China and Japan ports, and has invited the opinion of the committee as to whether or not this would have any effect upon the trade of the port.

The Committee in reply expressed its disapproval of the proposal, and pointed out that owing to the establishment of the steamship services of the Chinese Eastern Railway, other Russian and foreign lines which carried on business here previous to the first-mentioned line had been discontinued. If the intentions of the steamship department of the China Eastern Railway were carried out at present, Vladivostock would remain absolutely without regular direct communication with Nagasaki and Shanghai. If the regular service is to be abolished, the Exchange Committee request that the proposal should not be carried into effect before the expiration of six months from date; also that an announcement of the company's intention be made in the newspapers for the information of the commercial bodies in the East, in order that the foreign steamship lines which formerly called at Vladivostock may be given an opportunity of re-opening their services to the port.

The local *Vostochnie Visti* commenting on this, considers the request of the Committee a reasonable one, and adds that if a Russian subsidised steamship line intends to abandon Vladivostock to its fate, the port should resort to the aid afforded by foreign companies.—*Kobe Chronicle*.

THE HONGKONG STEAM WATER-BOAT CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The second annual meeting of the above Company was held on the 25th ult. in the office of the Company, -20, Des Voeux Road. Mr. Liao Tsze San, chairman, presided, and there were also present Messrs. E. S. Joseph, J. W. Kew (manager), Captain Clark, Mr. Chan Siu Ki, and F. X. Xavier.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands for some time I will take them as read, but before proceeding any further I should like to be allowed to explain the regrettable incident referred to in the report, namely the embezzlement of the sum of \$1,755.28 of the company's funds by an employee. Besides performing the duties of a clerk the man was also charged with the collection of bills; not being a shroff in the proper sense of that term, and being a Portuguese he was not of course secured; when your manager discovered the embezzlement he promptly had a warrant issued for the man's arrest, but it was too late, as he had already disappeared. Your Committee deeply regret the

occurrence, but under the circumstances it was unavoidable. For the future we have fully guarded against a similar occurrence by having the present collector secured, so you need feel no anxiety on that score. Coming to the report before us it is highly gratifying to the Committee, and I feel sure, it must be so to the shareholders as well, that the results for the past year are so excellent. Against the earnings of \$8,844.58 which we put before you 12 months ago, the earnings for the past year are as you see \$7,484.39. You will be pleased to hear, gentlemen, that this splendid result is not to be looked upon as merely temporary owing to the scarcity of water a few months ago, but is a substantial and permanent increase of the business of the Company. I need hardly say that we owe this improved position of our Company to the excellent management and the energy of our manager. (Hear, hear.) There is one other matter mentioned in the report, and that is that we intend to call up the remaining \$3 per share still unpaid. This is rendered imperative by the increasing volume of our business, necessitating a further addition to our boats. The call will therefore I am sure be fully endorsed by you, as it is a proof of a flourishing position. With these few remarks, I will move the adoption of the report and accounts, but before putting it to the meeting I will be pleased to answer any questions shareholders may wish to ask.

Captain CLARK—Do you intend, Mr. Chairman, to draw out the \$3 at once or by instalments as required? Of course it is only a small matter.

The CHAIRMAN—At once.

Mr. KEW—You see we expect to have the boat finished in four and a half months. The money will not be called up till the end of the year. The boat will be well under way by that time.

There being no other questions.

The CHAIRMAN formally moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. JOSEPH seconded, and the motion was unanimously adopted.

Captain CLARK proposed the re-election of Messrs. Liao Tsze San and Chan Siu Ki to the Consulting Committee for the current year.

Mr. JOSEPH seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. J. W. KEW moved the re-appointment of Mr. W. Hulton Potts as auditor.

Mr. CHAN SIU KI seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. Thank you for your kind attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow.

The following are the report and accounts:—

The consulting committee have the pleasure to submit to shareholders their report with a statement of accounts for the year ending 30th September, 1902.

ACCOUNTS.

The net profit for the year, after paying all working expenses, is \$7,434.39, and the balance remaining at credit of profit and loss account, after deducting interim dividend and consulting committee's fee \$3,885.00 paid on 24th April, 1902, is \$13,549.39 which together with \$259.08 brought forward from last year, interest and scrip fees, gives a total of \$13,988.77 and with the approval of the shareholders, it is proposed to appropriate this amount as follows:—

Consulting committee and auditor's fees	\$475.00
Final dividend of 6 per cent. making 12 per cent for the year	3,510.00
Write off goodwill	1,275.00
Write off value of boats	4,587.07
Write off amount embezzled by clerk	1,755.28
Carry forward to new account	2,386.42

Total ... \$13,988.77

Shareholders will doubtless note with satisfaction that the year's net earnings are about double those of the previous year.

The consulting committee much regret to report that the clerk entrusted with the collection of bills embezzled the sum of \$1,755.28 and fled the Colony, before he could be arrested. To prevent the possibility of a similar occurrence, it has been deemed advisable to have the present clerk secured.

BOATS.

Provision has been made in the accounts for

writing off a substantial sum from the value of the boats, which have been kept in thorough repair and are in excellent condition. The increase in the Company's business is such, in the opinion of the consulting committee, as to justify the construction of a fourth boat, and tenders for same are now under consideration. This will necessitate the calling up of the balance of subscribed capital.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Messrs. Liao Tsze San and Chan Siu Ki retire from the committee, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. W. Hulton Potts, who offers himself for re-election.

LIAO TSZE SAN,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 16th November, 1902.

BALANCE-SHEET

On the 30th September, 1902.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
To capital 17,500 shares of \$10 each	75,000.00		
Of which 2,000 shares each			
- 10 fully paid	20,000.00		
5,500 shares \$7 paid up	38,500.00		
To accounts payable		58	500.00
To unclaimed dividends		6,929	24
To balance of profit and loss		19	5.00
		2,386	42
		\$63,010	66
ASSETS.		\$	c.
By cash in hand		793	83
By Hongkong and Shanghai Bank		11,133	61
By value of goodwill per last account	\$3,500.00		
Less written off	1,275.00		
		7,225	00
By furniture		100	00
By accounts receivable		40	0.45
By new hose		314	04
By value of 3 steam water-boats as per last account	\$45,870.75		
Less written off	4,587.07		
		41,283	68
		\$68,010	66

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.		\$	c.
To interim dividend paid	\$3,510		
To consulting committee for half-year	375.00		
		3,885	00
Balance appropriated as follows:—			
Consulting committee and auditor's fees	475.00		
Final dividend of 6 per cent.	3,510.00		
Written off goodwill	1,275.00		
Written off boats	4,587.07		
Amount embezzled by late clerk	1,755.28		
Carried to new account	2,386.42		
		19,988	77
		\$17,973	77
Cr.		\$	c.
By balance		259	08
By balance working account		17,414	39
By interest		177	55
By scrip fees		2	75
		\$17,973	77

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The 36th ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held on the 25th ult. Mr. H. Schubart (chairman) presided, and the others present were Messrs. E. Goetz, A. J. Raymond, E. Ormiston (directors), C. Michélar, A. de Ath, E. C. Ray, W. Parlance, R. C. Wilcox, H. C. Wilcox, W. J. Saunders, J. Orange, J. W. R. Taylor, W. H. Wickham, R. K. Leigh, S. Fulcher, E. W. Maitland, Captains G. C. Anderson and F. D. Goddard, and W. H. Ray (secretary).

The notice calling the meeting having been read.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, with your approval I will consider the report and statement of accounts which have been in your hands for a fortnight, as read. The year shows an increase of \$73,974.15 in premia, but losses have reduced the balance to almost the same amount as shown in the previous report. There remains the sum of \$539,669.09, which the directors recommend be apportioned as follows:—16 per cent. (\$4 per share) as a dividend to

shareholders, a bonus of 15 per cent. to contributors of business, the same as last year, leaving a balance of \$318,669.09, \$100,000 of which has been placed to "Underwriting Suspense Account" as the beginning of an account which the directors consider it advisable to open for the payment of losses of years previous to the current one and carry forward the balance of \$218,669.09 to new account. The directors draw attention to the new account of "Reinsurance Fund" which is the nucleus of a fund it is intended to build up, and is composed of premia on risks in excess of the Company's normal lines. The advantage and advisability of such an account as this is undoubted. Messrs. Palmer & Turner have examined the various properties mortgaged to the Company, and report that the advance in every instance is amply secured. It will be seen that the sterling exchange continues to be computed at 2s. per dollar. There is nothing further of interest to add, but before submitting the report and accounts for confirmation I shall be happy to give any further information that may be required.

There were no questions, and the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

In seconding, Mr. R. C. WILCOX said—Mr. Chairman, I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts. I am pleased to hear of the establishment of a re-insurance fund, which I regard as a step in the right direction, calculated to strengthen the company. I only hope that we shall also soon be in a position to again make additions to the reserve fund. We have been pursued by bad luck pretty consistently for several years, and it is time that we entered upon a spell of good fortune. I hope we shall have good luck during the present year and be able at our next meeting to make an addition to the reserve fund, and gradually build it up to its former level of one million dollars. It is most necessary, I consider, that all insurance companies should go on steadily building up their reserves. It is true that the dollar is not worth much at the moment, less than 1s. 7d. (hear, hear); but nevertheless we must go on piling it up though it is dissipated—I should say perhaps melted—in the process. With these few remarks, I beg to second the adoption of the report and accounts.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and adopted unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. SAUNDERS, seconded by Mr. TAYLOR, Messrs. Goetz and Ormiston had their appointments as directors confirmed.

Mr. PARLONE proposed that Messrs. Schubart and Ormiston be re-elected directors.

Captain ANDERSON seconded, and the re-election was unanimously agreed to.

T. Arnold and H. W. Jeffries were re-appointed auditors, on the motion of Mr. A. J. RAY, seconded by Captain GODDARD.

This was all the business.

DAIRY FARM COMPANY, LD.

The following is the report for presentation to shareholders at the sixth ordinary yearly meeting, to be held at the Company's depot, Wyndham Street, on the 8th December, at 3 p.m.:

The directors herewith present to the shareholders a statement of the Company's accounts for the year ended 31st July, 1902.

The profit for the year (including \$3,914.97 brought forward from last account), after writing off \$6,961.32 for depreciation, providing for bad debts, and directors' and auditor's fees, amounts to \$15,192.68 from which it is proposed to pay a dividend of seventy-five cents per share, absorbing \$7,500; to transfer to reserve \$5,000 and carry forward \$2,692.68.

The directors regret to have to report that the late secretary absconded early in October last with funds belonging to the Company.

DIRECTORS.

Dr. Noble and Mr. Hinds retire by rotation, and being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

Mr. F. Henderson having resigned, Mr. W. Hutton Potts has audited the accounts in his stead, and now offers himself for election at this meeting.

F. MITLAND, Chairman.

The accounts are as follows:—

BALANCE-SHEET.

31st July, 1902.

LIABILITIES.

	\$	c.
To capital, 10,000 shares at \$7.50 each	75,000.00	
Less not called up, \$1.50 per share	15,000.00	
To reserve fund	60,000.00	
To accounts payable	13,000.00	
To dividend uncollected	9,139.79	
To profit and loss	31.67	
	15,192.68	
	\$97,934.14	

ASSETS.

	\$	c.
By cattle	\$42,184.95	
Less written off	2,184.95	
	40,000.00	
By property.—Farm lots 13, 19, 25 and 38	12,000.00	
By buildings	\$16,779.37	
Less written off	4,779.37	
	12,000.00	
By town depot	9,000.00	
By furniture	237.01	
By stores and utensils	1,296.21	
By cash on hand	392.03	
By amount invested on mortgage	12,000.00	
By accounts receivable	9,818.85	
By fodder on hand	1,200.00	
	\$97,934.14	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	\$	c.
To written off cattle	\$2,184.95	
To written off buildings	4,779.37	
	6,964.32	
To bad debts	2,184.95	
To directors' and auditor's fees	1,551.00	
To R. P. Moffitt (misappropriated funds)	5,735.76	
To balance	15,192.68	
	\$29,614.26	

	\$	c.
By balance from last year	\$24,414.97	
Less dividend	\$12,500.00	
Reserve fund	8,000.00	
	3,914.97	
By transfer fees	15.00	
By interest	873.41	
By balance of working account	21,333.89	
	\$29,614.26	

PUNJOM MINING CO., LD.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., was held on the 27th ult. in the Company's offices, Beaconsfield Arcade. Mr. R. Chatterton Wilcox (chairman) presided, and there were also present Messrs. Thomas Howard, W. Parlano, B. J. Barlow, Carl Georg, E. W. Terry, P. Stoppa, E. J. Moses, A. S. M. Soares, A. H. Ribeiro, and W. Kerfoot Hughes (secretary).

The SECRETARY having read the notice calling the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, we are met here to-day merely to confirm the special resolutions passed at the last extraordinary meeting. Before doing so, however, I would like to say that we have received a letter from the manager in which he made a proposal which, I think it only fair, should be put before you. Really the Board did not propose to entertain it for a moment, and I am quite sure you will not; but I would like you to know it because it will show you that the manager himself has great confidence in the future of the mine. The letter is dated 30th October, and we received it on the 14th inst.:

"I mentioned then that to thoroughly prospect the concession would require more capital, as you will understand that the present yield of gold there can be no profit."

"I would only be too pleased to see vigorous prospecting work carried on in the North, but it needs a large amount of capital and labour to do it effectually."

"Judging from the Chairman's remarks and from recent correspondence, I gather there is some difficulty in raising the necessary funds, and I trust you will not take it amiss if I make a suggestion which for a time would tide us over the difficulty. This would be to develop Swah only, keeping only one European there, assisted by one or two Chinese miners. The mill to be run by myself with the assistance of Mr. Richardson the accountant, who at the present time is helping me in this work and allowing me to get about for several hours during the day. The Company to make some arrangements for dispensing with the services of the

other two Europeans, and this I think could be done amicably by offering them a return passage or such other inducement as the directors may deem fit. The labour would be considerably reduced all round with a corresponding decrease in the expenditure. As soon as profits are obtained from Swah we could then consider the resumption of prospecting operations."

Well, gentlemen, we replied to that on 20th November to the following effect:—

"I have been requested to inform you that the directors will always be pleased to consider any suggestion you may make for the betterment of the Company's interests. In this case, however, the directors consider that your services are too valuable to be applied to the purpose proposed in your letter under reply: 'To run the mill yourself with the assistance of Mr. Richardson.'"

"The Board agrees with your views in regard to vigorous prospecting not only in the North but at other places in the concession which may appear promising, but without relinquishing any of the work now being carried on at Swah and its immediate vicinity, where success may be expected, as is foreshadowed in the concluding paragraph of your letter."

"You will observe by the cutting from the new paper enclosed, that the proposed increase of capital, \$6,000 was unanimously carried at the meeting of shareholders, and as the directors hope that this sum will, with the winnings from Swah, suffice to prospect the concession, they would be glad if you will place yourself in communication with Messrs. E. D. Miles & Co., either by letter or telegram, and request them to send you two suitable miners as soon as they can meet with them, unless you believe you can engage suitable men in the Straits who understand the Malay language."

"With two additional men, you will then be able to spare Murchison or Hangan to prospect the tin deposits thoroughly, and if any thing satisfactory be found, you will then advise as to the best way of developing, whether by our own employees, or by leasing it to the natives or Chinese."

"It might possibly be desirable, under any circumstances, to lease a limited area of the tin land to natives or Chinese on terms which would be remunerative to them as well as to ourselves."

Well, gentlemen, we considered it would be absolutely absurd to dispense with the services of the two miners, who have proved themselves very efficient—I mean Murchison and Hangan—who have prospected and found a good deal of valuable ore at different times, and who have besides learned the Malay language, a great consideration, because they therefore can get on much better with the natives; and we should be putting the clock back very materially indeed if we were to reduce our staff at the present moment. Therefore we hope and believe that our action will be approved by the shareholders. I may mention that since then a letter has been received, dated the 11th instant, in which the manager says:—

"Swah—There is nothing fresh to report concerning the stopes. Good progress is being made with the No. 3 tunnel—the tunnel to intersect the air-shaft, and referred to in my last letter. A contract has been let to Yeung Fook to procure surface stone at 40 cents per ton. I think we will have sufficient stone to keep us constantly going this month."

"Prospecting.—Murchison and his gang of coolies are working between Swah and Panggong, and I am pleased to say he has obtained some very good prospects from a few floaters of stone in one of the trenches which is being worked to intersect large 'blow' of stone."

So that there is every prospect of our getting plenty of stone to the present; and if we can lease the tin land to some advantage to Chinese—which I believe is very possible—we shall have another string to our bow. The manager in his last report referring to this tin land writes:—

"Tin.—Early in April a Malay reported that he had discovered tin in the southern portion of the concession. At first it was thought to be of some value, but when tried later, the wash proved to be very shallow and the tin of a very low grade. I have not been able to spare any of the Europeans to prospect in this district but will do so as soon as circumstances will allow."

Now, we considered it very important that this should be prospected and opened up and the jungle cleared. The Chinese, we think, can do that for us and probably would be very willing to do so if we can give them a lease; and as tin is being worked only about twelve miles away, I see no reason why this tin should not turn out remunerative. At any rate it is our duty to try, and I think it is very well worth while now detaching one of the prospectors to thoroughly prospect it. With these remarks I will just propose that the following special resolutions be confirmed:—

1. That the capital of the Company be increased by the creation and issue of 60,000 new ordinary shares of \$11 each, with the sum of \$10 paid up on each, and that the Directors be empowered and authorised to accept surrenders of the present 60,000 ordinary shares of the Company of \$10 each on which the sum of \$10 each has been paid up, and that one new share of \$11, with the sum of \$10 paid up thereon, be given in lieu of and in exchange for each old share of \$10 fully paid up, and that thereupon the said old shares be cancelled.
2. That of the remaining \$1 payable in respect of each of the new shares the sum of 50 cents be paid on the surrender of the old share, and that the remainder be called up (if necessary) and paid at such times and in such instalments as the Board may determine.

Mr. PARLANE seconded, and the motion was agreed to unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business of the meeting, but if any of the gentlemen present would like to read the letters, these are open to inspection. I have read only such extracts as I thought would interest you, but any shareholder is at liberty at any time to see the letters from the mines.

The meeting then separated.

SUPREME COURT.

Friday, 21st November.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR W. MEIGH
GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

Evidence was resumed in the case in which Ho Cheung, Lai Chung Chum and Lai Hau were charged with having on 10th October committed armed robbery at Samsipo.

The jury returned a verdict of guilty, and the Chief Justice sentenced each of the prisoners to five years' imprisonment with hard labour and to receive 20 strokes with the birch. Two of the witnesses for the defence, Low Tin Leng and Peng Yueng, were convicted of perjury and were each sentenced to three months' hard labour.

The Court adjourned.

Monday, 24th November.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE.)

CHARGE UNDER THE BANKRUPTCY
ORDINANCE.

Luk Hang was charged with having committed an offence against the Bankruptcy Ordinances by quitting the Colony when a receiving order had been made against him in bankruptcy with intent to avoid service of the petition.

He pleaded not guilty, stating that he left the Colony on account of illness and not with intent to avoid the service of the petition.

The prosecution was conducted by Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley, Attorney-General, instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor; the accused was defended by Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law, instructed by Mr. E. J. Grist, of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, solicitors.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. E. J. Libeaud, A. M. R. Pereira, jr., A. A. Cordeiro, R. W. Houghton, J. T. Prestage, V. C. da Rocha, E. G. de Aquino.

G. H. Wakeman, official receiver, gave evidence concerning the examination of the accused. When he asked him after one of the meetings of creditors why he left the Colony, he replied that he ran away to avoid arrest.

Li Tak Yuen, the interpreter on that occasion, corroborated.

This closed the evidence.

Mr. Slade said he would not call any witnesses. Before addressing the jury he raised a point of law that when the defendant left the Colony no receiving order had been made against him. The words of the section of the Ordinance under which this prosecution had been instituted were "any person against whom a receiving order is made."

His Lordship over-ruled the objection.

Mr. Slade then addressed the jury, stating that the defendant had actually returned to the Colony to undergo his examination in bankruptcy.

The jury, without retiring, unanimously returned a verdict of not guilty against the accused, who was accordingly discharged.

The Court rose.

Thursday, 27th November.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M.
GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

TAM FUNG SHEK v. CHAU CHI HIN.

Plaintiff's claim was, under an agreement dated November, 1895, made between himself and the defendant, for an account of the profits made by the defendant under a lease to him from Messrs. David Sassoon & Co. of 38 houses in McGregor Street for the term of three years from 1st April, 1897, and under a subsequent lease of the same premises for the term of five years from 1st April, 1900.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., who appeared for the plaintiff (instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, solicitors), stated that the claim was filed on 8th August last. Defendant of course entered an appearance and had been until this time represented by a solicitor; he thought, Mr. d'Almada. There was now no appearance for the defendant. The agreement made between the parties was that the profits accruing from the leased houses should be divided between them. Plaintiff stated that the accounts had been very irregularly rendered and were not accurate.

After hearing evidence,

His Lordship made an order for the accounts to be rendered unless the accounts were satisfactory to the plaintiff they would be settled by the Registrar in the usual manner.

The Court adjourned.

SPORTING NOTES.

(Daily Press, 29th November.)

Last Saturday's cricket was hardly exciting, the Club team being too strong for the new regiment, but the finish, when the Club had to make 30 runs in about half as many minutes, was brighter. Why, by the way, did the winners pile on another 10 runs after the match was actually finished? It was distinctly unkind conduct on the part of Lt. Smith toward the Foresters' bowlers. The Foresters, it appears, have not settled down yet, and being weak in numbers at present may be looked to for an improvement on their initial performance. Their first innings in Hongkong was rather inglorious with its eight "ducks." The bowling of Lambie (to whose merits I called attention two weeks ago) was too much for them; in the whole match he took 12 wickets for 59 runs, an excellent performance. Goldring made an unexpected but successful appearance in the first innings as a bowler. The batting does not call for much comment, and the poor scoring even of the winners is not easy to understand. Better things were expected by them when the list of names was published. To-day, after the pleasures and fatigues of the S. Andrew's Ball, a rather stiff engagement awaits the Club in the first match of the season v. The Garrison. Very good teams have been got together.

Many people have noted with interest as well as surprise the well founded remarks which appeared in the report of the Club v. Foresters match in this paper last Monday. As the H.K.C.C. has been making genuine efforts this year to give the "young players who never got a chance" the chance they asked for, it is, to say the least, disappointing when they will not

avail themselves of their opportunities. Of course, the fact that cricket and football are played during the same season at Hongkong no doubt acts prejudicially on the support accorded to both games, for it is hard for players to devote their attention successfully to the two. The scratching of the H.K.C.C. v. H.K.F.C. match on the 15th instant illustrates this better than any words of mine could. Unfortunately we cannot change the Hongkong seasons, and no remedy seems possible.

To-day the Rugby section of the H.K.F.C. play the Navy, and in view of the great improvement manifested recently among the Club backs, especially in the three-quarter line, there should be a fine game. It is rather a pity, to my mind, that there should be so little variety in the programme. Club v. Navy and Club v. part of the Navy are practically the only changes on the card. It is true that it would be hard to suggest many possible games with the limited number of Rugbyists in this Colony and the weakness of the military element at present, but public interest would be stimulated by seeing different sides in the field occasionally.

The Hockey Club has had a busy week, playing three matches, of which two, viz., against the R.A. and R.G.A., and the *Argonaut*, being won—the former match having been played at Kowloon; while the 10th Bombay Infantry beat the Club easily by 5 goals to love. On this occasion, however, it must be confessed that the Club team was very weak and hardly representative, as Hooper, Solfleet, Carter, and Murphy were all away. A new recruit for the forward division has been discovered in Barnes, the "Rugger" forward, who showed excellent form in the two matches the Club won. There have been 11 entries received for the new Shield Competition, and a keen struggle for the premier position is expected: matches begin on the 8th December. The Club will run two teams, the 1st XI being captained by J. Hooper and being chosen from the following:—Goal—C. A. Parker, R.N., or B. W. Grey; backs—L. Murphy, and Lt. Quennell, A.O.I.; half-backs—C. P. Chater, Major Bowley, R.A.M.C., Lt. Solfleet, R.N., or T. C. Gray; forwards—J. Hooper, P. P. J. Wodehouse, R. H. Carter, R.N., O. J. Barnes, Dr. Dartnell, R.N., A. G. R. berts, or R. O. Boggan. The "A" team will probably be captained by T. C. Gray, unless Solfleet, who is at present laid up with a bad knee, is unable to play, in which case Gray will take his place at half. The matches will be played on the League system, and will extend to the end of February, 1903.

Apocryph of hockey, a correspondent writes: I must wish prosperity to the Ladies' Club just formed and intend to see them playing in the near future, but hope that rumour is wrong in saying that "mere man" is barred as a member and that no mixed games will be attempted, as these have long ago proved the chief factor in the success of such a venture.

The Hongkong Boat Club is coming in for its full share of the usual misfortunes, to mention only the loss of Danby and Carpenter, which has necessitated the rearrangement of the crews for the International and Challenge Races. The remainder of the troubles are probably merely temporary; however, it is extremely difficult to induce substitutes to come forward on such short notice and it is hoped that in future crews will be put into training and practice in a method that suggests a little more system. A crew of new members has been practising and training assiduously and seems to be doing well, but it is doubtful whether the style adopted by them is likely to become popular. It has the merit of being extremely vigorous, but it looks as if it were equally exhausting. As for the other crews those stroked by Bingay appear to be going fairly well but those stroked by Kohler have been prevented by illness from going out for the last few days and the various Hong crews have disappeared entirely. A note in the *Telegraph* recently pointed out that the V.R.C. confidently hoped to carry off "the laurels"; if this means all the laurels it seems rather greedy. However it may be that the Boat Club will be able to give the V.R.C. some sort of a race.

Hongkong footballers will much regret to hear that W. H. Russell, the star full back of the Club's Association team last year, met with a severe accident immediately after his return to London football and was unable to help the London Caledonians in the first round of the Charity Cup v. Clapton (for which club, by the way, Russell used to play before he came out to Hongkong). Russell's play is as much appreciated in London as it was out here, and it is to be hoped that he is by now once more fit for play. Local football sustained a great loss when he left for home.

OMPA X

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. v. THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS.

The match against "the Regiment" used always to be one of the pleasantest and most interesting games of the Club's season, and, in days gone by, it was essential that the Club should put its strongest team into the field in order to stand any chance of winning. In recent years, however, frequent and prolonged terms of active service have had their effect upon, at any rate, the last two Regiments stationed here, and, as a consequence, the teams they have put into the field have not been as strong as they might have been in more peaceful times. A long spell of hard fighting in South Africa and the necessity of supplying officers and men for the Peking Legation Guard have considerably weakened the 1st Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters from a cricket point of view, and, consequently, they were unable to put a very strong team into the field to oppose the Club on the 22nd ult. On paper, the Club XI appeared to be much too strong for them, and indeed it was a stronger team than the executive intended to select; they, however, had no choice, as only 12 names were put down in the match book! The match book was started with the idea of giving every member of the Club an opportunity of playing in an occasional match, at any rate; in spite, however, of the frequent complaints that "the young players never get a chance," it would appear that the fault lies entirely with them, as they certainly do not avail themselves of their opportunities.

With regard to the cricket on the 22nd ult., it cannot be said that any exceptional form was shown by any one, and, though the Club won the match very easily, it was more on account of the weakness of their opponents than through any great prowess on their part. The S. F.'s won the toss and batted first but were all dismissed for the poor total of 39. Only three batsmen scored at all consequently there were eight 0's! Lambie was chiefly instrumental in bringing about their downfall, capturing 6 wickets for 23 runs. Goldring, too, was very effective for the short time he was on, and took 3 wickets for 4 runs. The Club easily headed their opponents' score, mainly through the instrumentality of Turner (32) and Fawcett (25). Rimington bowled well for the S. F.'s, taking 4 wickets for 33. On going in a second time the Regiment did far better and Westerman (31), Hodgson (5) and Wybergh (22) showed that the Club were somewhat fortunate in dismissing them so easily in the first innings. Indeed, with more practice, there is no reason why the S. F.'s should not put a very fair team into the field, and it is to be hoped that, later on in the season, they will give the Club a much better and closer game. Their total of 116 with the 39 scored in the first innings only left the Club 30 runs to get. With barely a quarter of an hour left for play, the Foresters sportingly went out again at once without taking their lawful ten minutes interval, and the Club sent in Fawcett and Smith to try and knock off the runs. This they succeeded in doing, thanks almost entirely to the hard-hitting of the latter, who scored his 31 not out in brilliant style. Thus the Club won, very easily, by 10 wickets and 11 runs, Lambie was again successful with the ball in the Forester's second innings, and, in the match, took altogether 12 wickets for 59 runs—a very creditable performance against any batsmen. A fair number of ladies graced the match with their presence, and during the afternoon, by kind permission of Colonel Wyally and

officers, the band of the Regiment, under Band-master Bradley, played an excellent programme. The following are the full scores and analyses:—

SHERWOOD FORESTERS.			
First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Capt. Anley, c sub., b		Lambie	0
Lambie	15	b Lambie	22
Lt. Wybergh, b Lambie	0	c Smith, b Lambie	2
Lt. Rimington, c Smith, b Lambie	12	b Fawcett	1
Lt. Collin, b Turner	0	b w., b Lambie	5
Sergt. Buckley, c Turner, b Goldring	12	c Turner, b Lambie	25
Lt. Hodgson, b Lambie	0	st Smith, b Turner	0
Lt. Corpl. Meakin, st Smith, b Lambie	0	c Heron, b Turner	31
Sergt. Westerman, not out	0	st Smith, b Lambie	11
Lt. Armstrong, c Turner, b Lambie	0	b Fawcett	1
Lt. Corpl. Hallam, b Goldring	0	not out	16
Pte. Cunningham, c Allenby, b Goldring	0	c Turner, b Lambie	2
Extras	0	Extras	116
Total	39	Total	

H.K.C.C.			
First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Lt. Allenby, R.N., c Collin, b Rimington	10		
Lt. W. Smith, R.A., c Buckley, b Rimington	15	not out	31
J. Hoope, l.b.w., b Meakin	7		
W. C. D. Turner, run out	32		
Comdr. Woolcombe, R.N., l.b.w., b Meakin	0		
Capt. Fawcett, R.A., b Hodgson	25	not out	5
Lt. C. H. Forster, R.N., c Westerman, b Rimington	13		
Mjr. Le Breton Simmons, R.E., b Hodgson	6		
P. W. Goldring, b Hodgson	6		
G. O. Heron, l.b.w., b Rimington	2		
P. T. Lambie, not out	2		
Extras	8	Extras	4
Total	126	Total (no wickets)	4

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

SHERWOOD FORESTERS.								
First Innings.				Second Innings.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Lamble.....	9	3	23	6	7.2	—	36	6
Turner	7	—	12	1	4	—	16	2
Goldring	1.4	—	4	3	4	—	21	—
Allenby	—	—	—	—	3	—	12	—
Fawcett	—	—	—	—	11	1	29	2

H K.C.C.								
First Innings.				Second Innings.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Hodgson	9	1	40	3	3	—	18	—
Rimington	12.5	—	33	4	3	—	18	—
Meakin	6	2	24	2	—	—	—	—
Colin	3	1	21	—	—	—	—	—

CRAIGENGOWER C.C. v. R. YAL ENGINEERS' C.C.

The above Clubs met at Happy Valley on the 22nd ult. The match ended in a easy win for Craigenower by 119 runs and 2 wickets. Appended are the scores and analyses:—

ROYAL ENGINEERS C.C.			
Skinner, c Stuart, b Brawn	4		
Smith, c Brawn, b Pestonji	4		
Watts, c Jordan, b Pestonji	1		
Tillman, b Pestonji	1		
Barnfather, c Jordan, b Pestonji	0		
Guthridge, b Pestonji	0		
Palmer, c Jordan, b Pestonji	0		
Bowyer, c Stuart, b Brawn	5		
Phillimore, b Pestonji	0		
Rutter, c Stuart, b Pestonji	1		
MacGibbon, not out	0		
Extras	1		
Total	17		

CRAIGENGOWER C.C.			
M. E. Asger, b Skinner	8		
A. O. Brawn, b Skinner	0		
J. P. Jordan, b Watts	0		
J. D. Kinniard, b Palmer	27		
B. Basa, c Palmer, b Watts	4		
L. A. Rose, c Palmer, b Phillimore	46		
I. E. Lammert, b Palmer	8		
B. Pestonji, not out	29		
J. L. Stuart, b MacGibbon	1		
F. Rapp, not out	3		
E. Ford, did not bat.	10		
Extras	10		
Total (for 8 wickets)	136		

BOWLING ANALYSES.

ROYAL ENGINEERS C.C.			
O.	M.	R.	W.
Brawn	8	2	11
Pestonji	7	1	6

CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Skinner	7	1	21	2
Watts	6	—	16	2
Palmer	6	—	25	2
Bowyer	2	—	20	—
Tillman	2	—	14	—
Guthridge	3	—	15	—
Phillimore	2	—	1	1
Rutter	3	—	11	—
MacGibbon	2	—	6	1

FOOTBALL.

H.K.F.C. v. "ARGONAUT."

On the 22nd ult. the Hongkong Football Club played a team from H.M.S. *Argonaut*. There was a large attendance and the game was fast. The teams were as under:—

H.K.F.C.—C. C. Hickling, goal; C. H. P. Hay and—Pearce, backs; G. H. Gaskell, R.E., C. J. Kew, and—Davies, half-backs; W. W. Clarke, N. H. Rutherford, C.R.S. Cooper, R. Kerr, and G. S. Cooke, R.N., forwards.

H.M.S. *Argonaut*:—T. Banks, goal; J. Morrison and E. Taylor, backs; J. Percy, T. Parker and C. Chissold, half-backs; G. Stevens, G. Callaghan, T. Paton, T. Goggle, and—Brown, R.N.

Referee—Mr. F. Browne.

The Navy kicked off, and in a few moments were within the Club territory, but their raid ended in a bye. From the goal-kick the Club pressed home and were soon in front of the posts, but only a corner resulted. The *Argonauts* were not long in returning the attack and were successful in scoring the first goal of the match, the honour falling to Callaghan, the inside right. The shot was one which Hickling was entirely unable to save. Hickling had in the next few minutes a great deal to do in repelling the attacks of the *Argonauts*, and he responded well to the demands made upon him. The Navy defence was also good. Banks in goal distinguished himself, saving brilliantly on more than one occasion. The backs were playing a strong game too, and fairly kept the Club forwards in check, while Parker at centre-half fed his forwards well. For the Club, Kerr played pluckily and Kew was as usual steady and made no mistakes. Play was very fast until half-time arrived, when the score stood—

Argonaut 1 goal; H.K.F.C., nil.

After the interval the Club started away by pressing hard. The forwards worked well and were backed up excellently by the half-backs and backs, Pearce especially making himself prominent. But the Navy appeared to have the better stamina. Again and again they got within reach of their opponents' goal and only failed to add to their score by the consistently good defence of Pearce, Hay, and Hickling. In the course of a scrimmage that occurred in front of the Navy goal the Club were lucky to secure the equalising goal, the ball being sent between the posts accidentally by Taylor, the right back. In the concluding portion of the game both sides played hard to gain the lead, but the match ended without further scoring. The result was—

Argonaut, 1 goal; H.K.F.C., 1 goal.

Another match took place at the Happy Valley on the 24th ult. between the H.K.F.C. and the *Argonaut*. The Club team was on a very "scratch" composition, and could not hold the *Argonauts*, who won by five goals to nil.

M. Blanchet, the Director of the Messageries Fluviales Co. and President of the Saigon Chamber of Commerce, died at Saigon on October 28th. He was 48 years of age and a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour.

The *Kobe Chronicle* says of the story of the plot against the life of the Emperor of Japan it appears to have arisen from the fact that, as usual, a pilot engine was sent on in front of the Imperial train, and this was sufficient in the imaginative minds of some people along the line, who had never seen a pilot engine used before, to warrant a belief in the discovery of some danger, which eventually was magnified into an explosive. There are few countries in the world where there is less probability of an attack on the Sovereign than Japan, concludes our contemporary.

HONGKONG.

Information has been received from the Government of Bengal that the plague regulations against Hongkong at Chittagong have been withdrawn.

On the 21st ult. a matched fire occurred on Stonecutters' Island at the quarters of the R.G.A. We regret to have to state that Gunner Duncan was burned to death.

At the regular meeting of the Victoria Lodge No. 1026 held on the 22nd ult. Bro. E. H. Ray was elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, Bro. E. Mirow, Treasurer, and Bro. J. Vanstone, Tyler.

Gunner Duncan, who was burned to death in the matched fire at Stonecutters', was buried with the usual military ceremony at Happy Valley on the 22nd ult. There was a large muster of the deceased man's comrades.

The return of stamp revenue for the months of October, 1901 and 1902, shows an increase this year of \$4,653.64. The only large gains are in the items of Probate or letters of administration, \$3,283, and Banknote duty, \$1,381.65, Power of Attorney coming next with \$731. The main items showing decrease are Policy of Insurance, \$460.45, and Charter Party, \$443.70.

The mortality returns for October show a total of 497 deaths in the Colony, 25 in the European and foreign community (23 civilians, 2 Army), and 472 in the Chinese community; 111 deaths were due to chest affections and 41 to malarial fever. The death-rates in the principal registration districts were:—British and foreign civil community, 28.1 per 1,000 per annum; Chinese, Victoria, land 19, harbour 17.1; Chinese, whole Colony, land 19.4, boat 18.5, land and boat, 19.3; whole civil community, 19.5.

The *P. and T. Times* of the 12th ult. states that a census had been taken at Tientsin, in which, however, the French and German municipalities did not co-operate, although the residences of a large number of British subjects and American citizens (in the Taku Road) are now in the French Concession. The census as taken showed 631 in all, of whom 255 are British, 145 Japanese, 104 German and 46 American; the remaining 81 being divided among 14 nationalities.

Some time ago we had occasion to write about the beachcombers who kept worrying people at Kowloon, especially Indians, for money. The police managed to run in two or three of these undesirables, and the nuisance was temporarily stopped. It appears that another batch of them has been landed here, as a resident at Kowloon has written to us complaining that for the last few days two or three beachcombers have been seen loitering about the streets of Kowloon soliciting alms. Our correspondent also states that they even went to the Italian sisters of charity at Kowloon for money, and when told to go, they positively refused to do so until they managed to get something out of the sisters. The police ought to see that this nuisance is put a stop to at once.

The Siamese Royal yacht *Maha Chakratri*, Captain Trolle, arrived here on the 26th ult., from Bangkok, which port she left on the 19th ult. She is on her way to Japan to receive H.R.H. the Crown Prince of Siam, who is now on his way home. The *Maha Chakratri* will probably call here again with the Crown Prince on board on her way back to Bangkok. Mr. H. N. Mody, the Acting Consul for Siam, called officially on board on Wednesday afternoon. It is now many years since a Siamese vessel of this class called at Hongkong. On Thursday evening Mr. H. N. Mody entertained H. E. Phya Visuth, late Minister for Siam in London, at dinner at his residence "Buxey Lodge," Caino Road. There were also present Commander Trolle and the officers of the Royal Siamese yacht *Maha Chakratri*. Mr. Mody proposed the health of H. M. the King of Siam, and H. E. Phya Visuth that of H. M. King Edward VII. The toast of the distinguished guests was given by Mr. Mody, to which Commander Trolle fittingly responded, and proposed the health of Mr. Mody. The band of the *Maha Chakratri* was in attendance, and played a selection of music during the dinner. On Thursday morning, Commander Trolle accompanied by Mr. Mody paid an official visit to H. E. Major-General Sir Wm. J. Gascoigne.

The weekly band concerts on the New Parade Ground will be discontinued until further notice.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending 22nd November were 241 non-Chinese and 137 Chinese to the former, and 47 non-Chinese and 2,991 Chinese to the latter institution.

By a matched fire at Shiklipui, where operations are proceeding in connection with the new reservoir, damage to the extent of \$600 was done. The matcheds were the property of Tsang King, the contractor.

At a meeting held on the 25th ult. in the City Hall in connection with the proposed S. George's Ball—Sir William M. Goodman presiding—it was decided to hold a ball on 6th January, 1903, and a sub-committee was appointed and other arrangements were made.

An unknown steamer ran down a trading junk, according to the statement of the owner of the Chinese boat, outside the harbour at eight o'clock on the 24th ult., cutting her in two. The junk's crew were rescued by two fishing boats, but one man, a native passenger, is now reported to be missing. The steamer, whose name is unknown, was making for the harbour, as also was the unfortunate junk, which was struck amidships.

Several home papers publish a paragraph to this effect:—"Sir C. P. Chater has decided to commemorate the Coronation by presenting a colossal statue in bronze of His Majesty to Hongkong. Mr. George Wade has been commissioned to execute the work. The King will be represented in his Coronation robes." The first part of the announcement has, of course, long been known in Hongkong, except the statement that the statue is to be "colossal." This we believe to be incorrect. The artist's name will be noted with interest.

The Union Church Literary Society met on Thursday night, when an excellent address was given by Mr. B. Hursthouse, his subject being "The Liberty of the Press." Mr. W. D. Braidwood, M.A., occupied the chair. Mr. Hursthouse gave an interesting sketch of the origin of the Press, its subsequent stages and development, and some of the different phases through which it has passed. The question whether its liberty should be curtailed was treated from a legal point of view. Mr. Hursthouse is stating several cases wherein he considered that some improvement might be made in the material submitted to readers. In particular, the speaker drew attention to the energy and enterprise of some newspapers in investigating crime, so that very often a criminal was condemned in the minds of the jury before he was ever brought to trial. Mr. Hursthouse gave several other instances of the licence of the Press, his remarks being pervaded through out with a quiet vein of humour which was much appreciated. Mr. T. H. Reid followed, as he humorously remarked, in the double capacity of prisoner at the bar and counsel for the defence. His reply was effective and much appreciated.

A sad burning fatality occurred on the 22nd ult. at half past ten on the Norwegian steamer *Tyr*, involving the death of Laurentz Larsen, third engineer of the Norwegian steamer *Lodsen*. The *Tyr*, which is under the command of Captain D. L. Danielsen, arrived in the harbour from Canton on Saturday morning, and took up anchorage in the Waichai basin. In the evening the deceased, who went on board to see some friends in the ship's company, was sitting in the mess-room with the second officer, second engineer, and carpenter, all of them countrymen, when a large kerosene lamp suspended over the table round which they were grouped suddenly exploded and set fire to the wooden fittings of the cabin. The flames made rapid headway, and a rush was made for the door. It was thought that everyone had succeeded in escaping, and only when the outbreak was overcome—which was not until serious damage had resulted to the mess-room and its contents—did the fate of the unfortunate Larsen become known. He was lying unconscious on the floor, and showed the grave extent of his injuries in the condition of his head and arms. Immediate steps were taken to have him removed to the Government Civil Hospital, where he was medically treated, but without avail, for he expired at one o'clock on the 23rd ult.

The *Gazette* notifies the appointment of Mr. E. D. C. Wolff to be Assistant Registrar-General and Deputy Registrar of Marriages.

The only cases of communicable disease reported in the Colony during the week ending 22nd ult. week were two of enteric fever—one European and one Chinese.

The China Merchants' s.s. *Hsin Fung* arrived in the Harbour on the 25th ult., having on board the body of the late Viceroy Tao Mu, which is being conveyed to the deceased's native place in Chekiang for burial. The eldest son accompanies his father's remains to their last resting place.

Sir Frank Swettenham, Governor of the Straits Settlements, has been informed by the Senior Naval Officer, Straits of Malacca, that His Majesty's ships *Albion*, *Argonaut*, *Blenheim* and *Cressy* will leave this port for Singapore on the 1st December, and may be expected to arrive there about the 8th prox.

Information has been received that on the 24th ult. the small 60-ton French steamer *Eclair* collided with and sank the steam-launch *Hoi Keing* off Shung Wui, in Chinese waters. The crew of the launch were saved by the *Eclair*, with the exception of one native, who is reported missing.

On the 23rd ult., as one of the Yaumati ferry-launches was crossing the harbour from Hongkong, a Chinese passenger overbalanced and fell into the water in the man-of-war anchorage off Kowloon. He raised cries for help, and a boat from the destroyer *Handy* was quickly launched and saved the man from drowning.

The German gunboat *Ilitis* arrived on Friday from Tsintau.

H.M. cruiser *Cressy* went out on the 23rd ult. for a cruise, and the gunboat *Britomart* arrived on Friday from Shanghai.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. Duncan MacLaren, of Messrs. Morrison & Co., Yokohama, formerly of Kobe, died of concussion of the brain on the 7th inst. after falling down the Yokohama Boat House stairs.

A Peking despatch to the *Mainichi* says that H. E. Hung, Director of Railways, has stated that a contract has been signed with the Russo-Chinese Bank for the loan of one million taels with which to pay Russia for the restoration of the Shanhaikwan and Newchwang railway.

The reception, followed by a garden party, given by Sir Claude MacDonald at Tokyo on the 8th ult. was a great success, being attended by an unusual number of Japanese Princes and Princesses. There were juggling feats, dancing, and refreshments, and the band of H.M.S. *Goliath*, and each lady guest on leaving received a pretty souvenir in the form of a lacquer box filled with bonbons.

The house of Viscount Dejeu of the French Legation was burnt down at Tokyo on the 7th ult. He had just moved in and his furniture was uninsured. There being no wind, the house of Major Wood next door was not touched, but owing to the apathy of the police, about a hundred boys from the Okura Commercial College rushed into his house and ruined his furniture and effects in their zealous determination to carry them into safety.

There are at present forty seven foreigners serving sentences in Japan prisons. They have all been convicted of minor offences, and are given as far as practicable light manual work instead of the hard bodily labour it is customary to give the prisoners. The work done by them is said not to be very satisfactory. Divided according to their nationality, thirty of the prisoners are Chinese, four Korean, four British, four American, two Russian, one French, one German, and one Italian.

According to investigations made by the Formosan Government, the population of the island at the end of December last was 2,830,749, of which 1,531,869 were males and 1,298,880 females, residing in 540,357 houses. Of this number 2,738,633, consisting of 1,504,107 males and 1,234,526 females, were Formosan Chinese, and 42,116 (26,762 males and 15,354 females) were Japanese. The foregoing does not include soldiers and non-combatants attached to the army. In addition it is estimated that there are 618 tribes of aborigines with a population of about 94,315, of whom 48,811 are males and 45,504 females.

The Canadian Department of Agriculture has in preparation an exhibit for the Osaka Exhibition next March. The Japanese Government has set aside a separate building for Canada's exclusive use, while exhibits from other countries will be shown in what is called the foreign sample building.

Sir Claude Macdonald gave a Coronation dinner at the British Legation, Tokyo, on the 10th ult., to some forty of the leading British residents, &c., of Tokyo and Yokohama. Captain Wintz, of H.M.S. *Goliath*, sat on his right and Dr. Wheeler on his left. Sir Claude proposed the health of the King, and Mr. Morrison proposed the health of Sir Claude.

The Central News has circulated a St. Petersburg wire reporting that the Imperial Government contemplates the abandonment of Port Arthur as a place of arms. A new stronghold will be established at Port Dalny, which is regarded as a more suitable site. No confirmation of this rumour has been received, which should at present be received with reserve.

A death from hydrophobia occurred at the Shanghai General Hospital on the morning of the 18th ult. A young Italian, Oreste Lamm, 22 years old, employed at Messrs. Venturi's, was bitten on the thumb by a small Chinese dog. He underwent the Pasteur treatment and believed all danger had been averted, but late on the 17th he developed the symptoms of the terrible malady, and died in delirium next morning.

Yokohama has produced its extraordinary rat to beat that captured at Osaka lately. It was handed over to the Central Police Station at Yokohama on the 13th ult. The rat is described as of the ordinary size, but the whole body is covered with white fur, the head alone being grey. It has two pairs of ears, two front legs and four hind ones, in addition to two legs projecting upwards from the hips. The rat is now being preserved in the sanitary section of the Yokohama Central Police Station as a curiosity.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* telegraphed on the 19th ult.:—"It is feared that the hoisting of the dragon flag at the mines on the pretext that it was the birthday of the Dowager Empress precludes some action on the part of the Chinese prejudicial to the company generally. The situation remains complicated, and the most conflicting statements are being made. Mr. Yang, a former director, publishes some extraordinary statements, but nothing definite is anticipated until the meeting which is to be held on the 23rd inst." The notice of meeting referred to in the above telegram will be found in another column.

Messrs. Behn Meyer & Co.'s s.s. *Kelantan* was sunk in a collision with the steamer *Phra Chom Klao* on the Bangkok bar early on the morning of the 13th ult. The *Kelantan* is a steamer of 68 tons, under the German flag, and commanded by Captain Lettmann. She left Singapore for Bangkok on the evening of the 9th ult. in ballast. Messrs. Behn Meyer & Co.'s agents in Bangkok inform them that it will take about two months to raise and repair the injured vessel. The *Phra Chom Klao*, which collided with the *Kelantan*, was bound down the river to Hongkong. She is also one of Messrs. Behn Meyer's steamers. Her captain's name is Bruhn and she is considerably larger than the *Kelantan*, having a displacement of 1,012 tons.

Japanese papers, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, continue to have reports regarding the conferences between M. Renault and Mr. Motono, for the appointment of an umpire in the House-tax dispute, but it is difficult to say how much reliance can be placed upon them. According to one report, Mr. Motono, the arbitrator appointed by Japan, has nominated alternatively Mr. M. W. Fuller, Chief Judge of the U.S. Supreme Court, and M. Grein, Professor of International Law in the Norwegian University; while M. Renault, the arbitrator appointed by the foreign Powers, has nominated alternatively Baron von Marten, the Russian jurist, and M. Largi, the Swiss Minister of Finance, who is also an international jurist. No definite agreement, it is stated, has yet been arrived at between the arbitrators, and if the parties cannot agree on the choice of an umpire the appointment will be left in the hands of King Oscar of Sweden.

The match factories at Osaka are to be closed for a month, to make up for the loss caused by the depreciation of silver in China.

The French school at Peking is to be reopened soon. Several professors have been already engaged. This school is under the direction of Chinese.

The *Japan Mail* is authority for the statement that with reference to the proposed cutting of a tunnel through the Bluff, Yokohama. It appears the matter has been definitely settled. The tunnel will be cut to a width of 24 feet and its entire cost is put at about 60,000 yen. It was arranged that the Yokohama city authorities should be requested to defray one-half of the cost and that the remainder be raised among the citizens.

The *Tokyo Asahi*, in a recent editorial, dealt with the recent fall in silver. On more than one occasion that journal has called attention to an ever-increasing tendency in this direction, and advocated certain measures which should be taken in order to cope with the disastrous condition which such tendency may result in. The *Asahi* now points out in detail the great loss which China must have sustained owing to this fluctuation, while it need hardly be said that the Powers interested in China's economic condition will be likewise affected. In conclusion, the *Asahi* puts great stress upon the necessity of inaugurating an International Conference for the purpose of discussing an amendment of the monetary system adopted by civilised Powers and an extension of the use of silver in subsidiary coinage, so as to keep up the price of silver. The paper suggests that Japan should take the initiative in an international movement of this kind.

With regard to the Japanese House-tax arbitration question, Messrs. Motono and Renault are still unable to agree. Mr. Motono says the *Niroku Shimpō* (translated by the *Japan Mail*) claims that as incomparably the largest interests involved are Anglo-Saxon, and as the main part of the documents will be in English, an English-speaking judicial expert should be selected. He therefore advanced the name of Mr. Justice Fuller, of the United States Supreme Court, as his first choice. M. Renault, however, is equally insistent that a Russian or a German should be appointed. In the event of Mr. Motono and Mr. Renault failing to agree about Justice Fuller, the *Niroku* alleges that Mr. Motono will probably be instructed to propose Lord Alverstone, Lord Chief Justice of England. Japan's action in the matter may justly be applauded by English-speaking peoples. It seems to the *Japan Mail*—the view will certainly find general endorsement—that in common fairness the duties of umpire should be entrusted to an Anglo-Saxon judicial expert. According to present appearance, however, the choice will ultimately rest with the King of Sweden.

The *Kobe Chronicle* writes:—The *Hamburg* case has apparently attracted the attention of the Minister for Justice. We notice that Baron Kiyoura, in an interview reported in the *Kokumin*, has pointed out that the existing Shipping Law provides that a vessel entering a port not open to foreign trade without obtaining permission from the authorities is liable to a fine ranging from 200 yen to 2,000 yen, the vessel in addition being confiscated. As Baron Kiyoura remarks, this provision of the law was intended to prevent smuggling, while, as our readers will be aware, it was applied in the case of the *Hamburg* to a launch entering a port in distress. Baron Kiyoura says that as the provision was intended for the prevention of smuggling it is unjust that it should be applied to a yacht or tug-boat without cargo that may enter such an unopen port. He thinks it would be better if more latitude were given Courts in such cases of alleged infraction of the law, and the provision amended so that it might be brought more into consonance with justice. We understand that it is probable that the Minister of the Communications will bring in a Bill during the next Session of the Diet with the object of altering this law and with a view to making it apply only in cases where an attempt to smuggle is proved. The *Hamburg* case will thus at least have done some good in drawing attention to a defect in law which ought to be remedied; but it has been at the outlay of considerable expenditure in legal costs, and the case is not even yet at an end.

An inquest was held at Tientsin on the 19th ult. on the body of Mr. Baxter, who was killed in the colliery fire at Tongshan on the previous Monday.

The *Japan Mail* says that it is stated that Mr. Witte has decided to postpone the opening of the Manchurian railway to general traffic until next June.

The new Japanese cruiser *Nitaka* 3,420 tons, 21 guns, 20 knots speed, was launched by the Empress at Yokosuka on the 15th ult. Her keel was only laid in January last.

The ex-steward of the *Sachsen*, who deserted his ship here and was arrested in Singapore in connection with the disappearance of some money from on board, has been handed over to the captain of the *Sachsen*, which sailed for Europe on the 17th inst.

A Japanese vernacular paper states that the Government will endeavour to induce Prince Mori, Marquis Mayeda, and Marquis Nabeshima, and other wealthy nobles to subscribe to the proposed Japan-Chinese syndicate which is to be floated for the promotion of business in Tientsin. It is proposed to send fully qualified officials for the management of the business, excluding all the so-called Government merchants, and to conduct the business on the best and soundest principles so as to secure the confidence of Chinese capitalists.

COMMERCIAL.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 28th November.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 28th November.—The position of the market is nearly the same as when last reported. Shikloong, No. 1, White.....\$8.15 to \$8.20 per cwt.
do. " 2, White..... 7.80 to 7.85 "
Shikloong, No. 1, Brown ... 6.60 to 6.65 "
do. " 2, Brown ... 5.80 to 5.85 "
Swatow, No. 1, White..... 8.05 to 8.10 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ... 7.60 to 7.65 "
do. " 1, Brown ... 5.75 to 5.80 "
do. " 2, Brown ... 5.60 to 5.65 "
Fochow Sugar Candy.....12.10 to 12.15 "
Shikloong " 9.55 to 9.60 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 28th November.—Large arrivals having been reported, the prices are further declining.

Saigon, Ordinary\$3.45 to 3.50
" Round, Good quality 4.55 to 4.60
" Long 4.70 to 4.75
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 3.60 to 3.65
" Garden, " No. 1 4.25 to 4.30
" White 4.80 to 4.85
" Fine Cargo 4.90 to 4.95

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG 21st November.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....\$84.00 to \$126.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—

per piece.
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs. 2.20 to 2.30
7 lbs. 2.30 to 2.50
8.4 lbs. 3.10 to 3.77
9 to 10 lbs. 3.85 to 5.00
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.60 to 2.90
58 to 60 " 3.25 to 3.45
64 to 66 " 3.55 to 5.35
Fine 5.40 to 7.85
Book-folds 4.55 to 7.00
Victoria Lawns—12 yards..... 0.75 to 1.40
T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y. 1.90 to 2.15
7 lbs. (32 ") " 2.20 to 2.50
6 lbs. (32 ") , Mexs. 2.25 to 2.40
7 lbs. (32 ") , " 3.95 to 3.50
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) 3.20 to 3.75
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ " 4.20 to 6.90
to 14 lbs.)

FANCY COTTONS.—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 1½ lbs. 1.50 to 4.85

Broadens—Dyed — to —

DAMASKS.—

per yard
Chintzes—Assorted — to —
Velvets—Black, 22 in. 0.27 to 0.60
Velveteens—18 in. 0.23 to 0.28

per dozen
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.30 to 5.00

WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	per yard	0.65 to 2.25
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 3.00	
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.	per piece	6.85 to 8.25
Assorted	7.00 to 9.40	
Camlets—Assorted	15.50 to 34.00	
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches	12.50 to 17.00	
Assorted	10.00 to —	
Orleans—Plain	per pair	0.65 to 0.80
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	1.40 to 2.10	
Fine quality,		

METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod	per picul	4.75 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.	4.75 to —	
Swedish Bar	4.80 to —	
Small Round Rod	5.00 to —	
Hoop $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 1/2 in.	6.50 to —	
Wire, 16/25,	9.30 to —	
Old Wire Rope	3.40 to —	
Lead, J. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	8.05 to —	
Australian	8.05 to —	
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14 20 oz.	40.00 to —	
Vivian's 14 20 oz.	40.00 to —	
Elliot's 14 20 oz.	40.00 to —	
Composition Nails	61.00 to —	
Japan Copper, Slabs	39.00 to —	
Tin	82.00 to —	
Tin-Plates	box, per	8.25 to —
Steel $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$	per cwt. case	6.50 to —

SUNDRIES—

Quicksilver	per picul	18.00 to —
Window Glass	per box	5.75 to —
Kerosene Oil	per 10-gal. cask	2.80 to —

SHARE REPORTS

HONGKONG, 28th November.—Business has been dull during the whole of the week under review, and with the exception of Banks and Docks, most stocks have a declining tendency.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have steadily advanced, and sales have been effected at \$637 $\frac{1}{2}$, \$640, and \$642 $\frac{1}{2}$, the market closing steady at the latter rate. London quotes £63. 10s. 0d. Nationals are unchanged with sellers at \$27.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions continue in request at \$460. China Traders are easier, with sellers at \$59 ex the dividend of \$4 per share for the year ended 30th April, 1902, paid on the 26th instant. Yangtze are slightly better at \$132 $\frac{1}{2}$ buyers. Cantons are reported sold at \$167 $\frac{1}{2}$ with further sellers.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have declined to \$345 sellers. Chinas have sold at \$85 $\frac{1}{2}$ and are offering at \$86.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have sold at \$37 $\frac{1}{2}$ and \$37 $\frac{1}{2}$, and close with sellers at the higher rate. Indo-Chinas have declined to \$94 sellers without tempting buyers. China and Manilas are offering at \$26. Douglas has ruled erratic with sales at \$41 $\frac{1}{2}$, \$41 and \$41 $\frac{1}{2}$, closing with sellers at \$41 $\frac{1}{2}$. Star Ferries can be placed at \$23 (old) and \$13 (new). Shell Transports are quiet at £1. 15s. 0d.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have further declined to \$91 sellers. Luzons continue on offer at \$15.

MINING.—Punjoms are wanted at \$2 $\frac{1}{2}$, and Raubs at \$6 $\frac{1}{2}$. Jebebus are unchanged with sellers at \$1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

LOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have improved, and sales have been effected at \$210, \$212 $\frac{1}{2}$ and \$215, market closing with buyers at \$213 and a few shares obtainable at \$215. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves are easier with sales and sellers at \$89 $\frac{1}{2}$. New Amoy Docks have been negotiated at the improved rate of \$40.

LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have further receded to \$183 sellers. Kowloon Lands continue in request at \$31. West Point's can be placed at the improved rate of \$51. Humphreys Estates have sellers at \$12 $\frac{1}{2}$, after sales at the rate. Hongkong Hotels have been booked at \$140 and \$141, and close firm with buyers at \$140. Oriente Hotels are offering at \$40.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkong Cottons have advanced to \$17 $\frac{1}{2}$, with sales at the rate and further buyers. The Northern stocks are unchanged.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Manila Investments have sold at \$10 and \$12 $\frac{1}{2}$, and further shares can be obtained at the higher quotation. Green Island Cements have sold, and there are further sellers at \$20 $\frac{1}{2}$. Watsons have sold and are procurable at \$15. Ropes have been booked at \$120, and there are further sellers. Providents have sold at \$9 $\frac{1}{2}$ and are further obtainable. Powells have been booked at \$9.

MEMOS.—Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., extraordinary meeting on the 8th December to discuss proposals for the construction of a new Dock. Dairy Farm Co., Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting on the 8th December.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	(\$642 $\frac{1}{2}$, sellers (L'don, £64. 10.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$27, sellers
B. Shares	£8	\$27, sellers
Foun. Shares	£1	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	\$1, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$35.
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$25.
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$15, sellers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$91, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$91, sellers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$500, buyers
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$4, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 38.
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 40.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 39.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 150.
Hongkong	\$100	\$17 $\frac{1}{2}$, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$12, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$10.
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$20 $\frac{1}{2}$, sales & sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$13, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$5	\$6 $\frac{1}{2}$, buyers
Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd.	\$100	\$345.
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$240.
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$80 $\frac{1}{2}$, sales & sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$120, sales & sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$213, buyers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$167 $\frac{1}{2}$, sales & sells.
China Fire	\$20	\$86, sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$59, ex div., ellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$345, sellers
North China	£25	Tls. 177 $\frac{1}{2}$, sellers
Straits	\$20	\$1, nominal
Union	\$50	\$460, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$132 $\frac{1}{2}$, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$183, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$12 $\frac{1}{2}$, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$31, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$51, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$15, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$12 $\frac{1}{2}$, buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$600, sellers
Jebebu	\$5	\$1 $\frac{1}{2}$, sellers
Punjom	\$10	\$2 $\frac{1}{2}$, buyers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1, sellers
Raubs	18	\$6 $\frac{1}{2}$, buys cum div.
New Amoy Dock	\$6 $\frac{1}{2}$	\$4 $\frac{1}{2}$, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$40, sales
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$9, sales & buyers
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$26, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$15	nominal
H., Canton and M.	\$50	\$4 $\frac{1}{2}$.
Indo-China S. N.	\$15	\$37 $\frac{1}{2}$, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$94, sellers
Shel Transport and Trading Co.	£1	£1. 15.
Star Ferry	\$10	(\$23.
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	(\$13.
United Abestos	\$4	\$8 $\frac{1}{2}$, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$155.
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$19 $\frac{1}{2}$, nominal
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$7, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$15, sales & sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Shanghai, 10th November (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). There has been a moderate general business transacted during the week. MARINE INSURANCE.—China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd. Shares changed hands locally at \$62. SHIPPING.—Indo-China S. N. Co. Shares were sold for cash at Tls. 75/74 $\frac{1}{2}$, for November at 74 $\frac{1}{2}$, for December at 76/75, for January at 76 and for March at 78. The market is steady at Tls. 74. SUGARS.—The annual meeting of the Perak Sugar Cultivation Co. is called for the 25th current. China Sugar Refining Co. shares have declined to \$98. MINING.—Chinese Engineering and Mining shares were sold at Tls. 8.00 to 8.20 cash and for December. Shares are offering freely at Tls. 8.00. DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Co. The cash market opened at Tls. 217 $\frac{1}{2}$, declined to 202 and then recovered to 207 $\frac{1}{2}$. Shares were placed for November at Tls. 200, for December at 217 $\frac{1}{2}$ /205 and 2 7 $\frac{1}{2}$, for January at 215, for March at 220/215 and for April at 217 $\frac{1}{2}$. The market closes with seller at Tls. 207.50. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares changed hands at Tls. 310, and close steady. LANDS.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were sold at Tls. 125, but no shares obtainable under Tls. 130. Sales of Weihaiwei Land shares are reported at Tls. 16, but there are shares offering under this figure. INDUSTRIAL.—Shanghai Gas shares are wanted at Tls. 120. Laou-kung-mow Cotton Mill shares were sold at Tls. 39. China Flour Mill shares were placed at Tls. 89/90 and Shanghai Pulp and Paper shares at Tls. 120. Shanghai Ice shares are offering at Tls. 20. Shares in Moutrie and Co. changed hands at \$57. TUGS AND CARGO BOATS.—A meeting of the shareholders in the local Cargo-Boat Companies is convened for the 2nd December to consider a scheme for the amalgamation of these Companies with the Shanghai Tug-Boat Co. under the title of Shanghai Tug and Lighter Co. Shanghai Cargo-Boat shares were sold at Tls. 140. MISCELLANEOUS.—Shanghai Wat rworks shares were placed at Tls. 380. Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares were sold at Tls. 342 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 362 $\frac{1}{2}$ cash, 355 for November, 345/360 for December, 377 $\frac{1}{2}$ for March and 380 for April. There are sellers at Tls. 350 for December. Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares were sold at Tls. 130; Hall and Holtz shares at \$32; Shanghai Telephone shares at Tls. 62 and Central Stores shares at \$25. LOANS.—Shanghai Land Investment Company's 6 per cent. debentures were sold at Tls. 103.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

SATURDAY, 29th November.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	1/6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Bills, on demand	1/6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/7 $\frac{1}{2}$

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	1.94 $\frac{1}{2}$
Credits, 4 months' sight	1.98 $\frac{1}{2}$

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	1.58
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	37 $\frac{1}{2}$
Credits, 60 days' sight	38 $\frac{1}{2}$

ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer

Bank, on demand	115 $\frac{1}{2}$
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ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer

Bank, on demand	115 $\frac{1}{2}$
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ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight

Private, 30 days' sight	71 $\frac{1}{2}$
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ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	33 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.c.m.
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ON MANILA.—

On demand	18 p.c. disc
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	18 p.c. disc.
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ON BATAVIA.—

On demand	93
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ON HAIPHONG.—

On demand	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.c. pm.
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ON SAIGON.—

On demand	1 p.c. pm.
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ON BANGKOK.—

On demand	nominal
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SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate ... \$12.88

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael ... \$67.25

BAB SILVER per oz. ... 21 $\frac{1}{2}$

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—*Kanagawa Maru* (str.), *Benmohr* (str.), *Teen kai* (str.), *Sado Maru* (str.).
 FOR LONDON.—*Shanghai* (str.), *Parramatta* (str.), *Sado Maru* (str.), *Tantalus* (str.), *Ulysses* (str.), *Peleus* (str.), *Antenor* (str.), *Kanagawa Maru* (str.), *Benmohr* (str.), *Teen kai* (str.).
 FOR LIVERPOOL.—*Tydeus* (str.), *Alcinous* (str.).
 FOR AMSTERDAM.—*Tantalus* (str.), *Ulysses* (str.).
 FOR MARSEILLES.—*Sydney* (str.), *Shanghai* (str.), *Kanagawa Maru* (str.), *Teen kai* (str.), *Sado Maru* (str.).
 FOR BREMEN.—*Kiautschou* (str.).
 FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Marburg* (str.), *Suevia* (str.), *Wurzberg* (str.), *Nurnberg* (str.), *Silesia* (str.), *C. Ferd. Laeisz* (str.).
 FOR GENOA.—*Benmohr* (str.).
 FOR GENOA AND HAMBURG.—*Alesia* (str.).
 FOR TRIESTE.—*Vindobona* (str.).
 FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—*Glenogle* (str.), *Moyune* (str.), *Iyo Maru* (str.), *Kinshiu Maru* (str.).
 FOR VANCOUVER.—*Empress of Japan* (str.), *Tartar* (str.).
 FOR NEW YORK.—*Border Knight* (str.), *Adria* (str.).
 FOR PORTLAND (OR.).—*Indrapura* (str.).
 FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—*Empire* (str.), *Changsha* (str.).
 FOR BOMBAY VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—*Kagoshima Maru* (str.).
 FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.—*Laisang* (str.).
 FOR BOMBAY VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—*Kagoshima Maru* (str.).
 FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO AND BOMBAY.—*Tientsin* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

November—

21, Britomart, British g.-bt., from Shanghai.
 21, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 22, Bengal, British str., from Bombay.
 22, Benvenue, British str., from Moji.
 22, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Canton.
 22, Chiyo Maru, Japanese str., from Canton.
 22, Diamante, British str., from Newchwang.
 22, Hai'an, British str., from Coast Ports.
 22, Heim, Norwegian str., from Swatow.
 22, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.
 22, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 22, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'ichinotzu.
 22, Independent, German str., from Manila.
 22, Iyo Maru, Japanese str., from Seattle.
 22, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 22, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
 22, Ness, British str., from Moji.
 22, Perla, British str., from Manila.
 22, Sze-huen, British str., from Swatow.
 22, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Canton.
 23, Alacritty, British d.-v., from Nagasaki.
 23, Emma Luyken, German str., from Saigon.
 23, Glenogle, British str., from Tacoma.
 23, Kennebec, British str., from Amoy.
 23, Progress, German str., from Touron.
 23, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
 23, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 23, Woosung, British str., from Canton.
 23, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 24, Agamemnon, British str., from Shanghai.
 24, Ariel, Norwegian str., from Chinkiang.
 24, Border Knight, British str., from Foochow.
 24, Hingsang, British str., from Canton.
 24, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 24, Machew, German str., from Touron.
 24, Petrarch, German str., from Chinkiang.
 24, Phranang, Ger. str., from Triton Island.
 24, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
 24, Saga, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 24, Whampoa, British str., from Shanghai.
 25, Benlomond, British str., from London.
 25, Empress of Japan, Br. str., from Vancouver.
 25, Gera, German str., from Yokohama.
 25, Hailong, British str., from Swatow.
 25, Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.
 25, Kwang Tah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 25, Labor, Norwegian str., from Chinkiang.
 25, Tsintan, German str., from Bangkok.
 25, Tirol, Austrian str., from Shanghai.
 25, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Newchwang.
 25, Lai-ang, British str., from Calcutta.
 26, Choysang, British str., from Wuhu.
 26, Cressy, British cruiser, from a cruise.
 26, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 26, D'Entrecasteaux, French flagship, from Tonkin.
 26, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 26, H. Menzell, German str., from Canton.

26, Hongwan I, British str., from Rangoon.
 26, Kong Beng, German str., from Bangkok.
 26, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., from Australia.
 26, Maha Chakreri, Siam. cr., from Bangkok.
 26, Prosper, German str., from Manila.
 26, Skramstad, Norwegian str., from Canton.
 26, Taisang, British str., from Canton.
 26, Triton, German str., from Manila.
 26, Telemachus, British str., from Saigon.
 27, Bayern, German str., from Hamburg.
 27, Elita Nossack, German str., from Canton.
 27, Haiphong, French str., from Haiphong.
 27, Mazagou, British str., from Bombay.
 27, Michael Jensen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 27, Nanchang, British str., from Taku.
 27, Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 27, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 27, Yikang, British str., from Swatow.
 28, America Maru, Jap. str., from S. Francis.
 28, Cassius, German str., from Chinkiang.
 28, Dott, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 28, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Wuhu.
 28, Hongkong, French str., from Hoihow.
 28, Iltis, German gunboat, from Tsintan.
 28, Katsuyama Maru, Japanese str., from Newchwang.
 28, Kobsichang, German str., from Bangkok.
 28, Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 28, Meifoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 28, Pitsanulok, German str., from Bangkok.
 28, Shansi, British str., from Canton.
 28, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 28, Wakamitsu Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 28, Wakasa Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 29, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Coast Ports.
 29, Glenfallach, British str., from Straits.
 29, Gr'et, German cruiser, from Shanghai.
 29, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.
 29, Kwangle, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 29, Lisa, Swedish str., from Manila.
 29, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 29, Macduff, British str., from Liverpool.
 29, Nanyang, German str., from Hongay.
 29, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
 29, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
 29, Sydney, French str., from Yokohama.
 29, Waterwitch, British s.-v., from Whaiwei.
 30, Amur, Russian str., from Chefoo.
 30, Andrea Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
 30, Doris, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.
 30, Hailong, British str., from Swatow.
 30, Tonkin, French str., from Marseilles.

November— DEPARTURES.
 22, Chartreuse, British str., for Moji.
 22, Cheangchew, British str., for Amoy.
 22, Cressy, British cruiser, for a cruise.
 22, Feiching, British str., for Shanghai.
 22, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 22, Hailong, British str., for Swatow.
 22, Kaifong, British str., for Cebu.
 22, Lodsan, British str., for Woosung.
 22, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 22, Luzon, American barque, for Manila.
 22, Massilia, British str., for Europe.
 22, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
 22, Salamanca, British str., for Swatow.
 22, Seirstad, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 22, Selun, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 22, Wuhu, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Bengal, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 23, Else, German str., for Saigon.
 23, Hangsang, British str., for Canton.
 23, Karin, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 23, Monmouthshire, Brit. str., for Shanghai.
 24, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 24, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'ichinotzu.
 24, Ness, British str., for Moji.
 24, Tyr, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
 24, Whampoa, British str., for Canton.
 25, Agamemnon, British str., for London.
 25, Apenrade, German str., for Haiphong.
 25, Ariel, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 25, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
 25, Hingsang, British str., for Moji.
 25, Independent, Ger. str., for Kwangchow.
 25, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Tsintan.
 25, Kwang Tah, Chinese str., for Canton.
 25, Petrarch, German str., for Canton.
 25, Seitoku Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
 25, Strassburg, German str., for Yokohama.
 25, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 25, Wongkoi, German str., for Bangkok.
 25, Woo-ung, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Chiyo Maru, Japanese str., for Chefoo.
 26, Diamante, British str., for Canton.
 26, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Canton.

26, Gera, German str., for Europe.
 26, Hailong, British str., for Swatow.
 26, Heim, Norwegian str., for Manila.
 26, H. Meuzell, German str., for Hongay.
 26, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
 26, Hsinfung, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 26, Hue, French str., for Kwangchow.
 26, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
 26, Skramstad, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
 26, Sui-ang, British str., for Calcutta.
 26, Su gkiang, British str., for Manila.
 27, Amigo, German str., for Saigon.
 27, Choysang, British str., for Canton.
 27, Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., for Australia.
 27, Kennebec, British str., for New York.
 27, Loosok, German str., for Bangkok.
 27, Tirol, Austrian str., for Bombay.
 28, Bayern, German str., for Shanghai.
 28, Benvenue, British str., for Saigon.
 28, Coptic, British str., for San Francisco.
 28, Emma Luyken, German str., for Saigon.
 28, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 28, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 28, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
 28, Petchaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
 28, Progress, German str., for Touron.
 28, Prosper, German str., for Saigon.
 28, Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., for K'ichinotzu.
 28, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 29, Benlomond, British str., for Kobe.
 29, Elita Nossack, German str., for Chinkiang.
 29, Hermes, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 29, Hongwan I, British str., for Amoy.
 29, Kutsang, British str., for Singapore.
 29, Maha Chakreri, Siam. cr., for Japan.
 29, Mazagou, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Nanchang, British str., for Canton.
 29, Shansi, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Thea, German str., for Chinkiang.
 29, Wakasa Maru, Japanese str., for London.
 30, Bintang, Danish str., for Shanghai.
 30, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
 30, Taisang, British str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Monmouthshire*, from London, &c., Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Sidford, Mr. and Mrs. Kinney, Mr. and Mrs. Irving and three children, Mr. C. Curry and Capt. Sken.

Per *Massilia*, from Hongkong, from Shanghai, Miss D. Grey, Messrs. M. Schmidt, A. C. Vernieu, E. Ebraim, Bastien and J. C. Hubbell; for Singapore, Mrs. C. Head Jones, and Mr. A. S. Peresche; for Bombay, Sergeants Berry, Boyle and Baxter, Privates Edris and Ratcliffe; for London via Marseilles, Miss Wood, and Assistant Surgeon Callaghan; for London, Misses Kekewich and Onyon.

Per *Coptic*, from San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Warburton, Rev. P. W. Pitcher, Messrs. T. R. Toby and V. Udall; from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. L. Schlather, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Canby, Miss Canby and Mr. H. B. Canby; from Kobe, Mrs. E. Tilden, Master Tilden, Mrs. H. H. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Chatard, Mr. and Mrs. E. Bowditch, Mr. and Mrs. A. Swaney, Mr. and Mrs. C. Staley, Misses O. A. Welch, L. Purson, M. I. Nelson, J. A. Nelson, Messrs. Hyde, W. B. Jones and Geo. W. Brown; from Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Clark and Miss Officer; from Manila, Mrs. McKenna, Mrs. L. M. Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Schlessinger, Mrs. Morris, Messrs. A. Moss, A. Mann, Dickenson, C. Main, E. E. McCullough, F. H. Hilbert and Rosenberg.

Per *Glenogle*, from Tacoma, &c., Messrs. Keene, Clark and Delone.

Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Martinez, Messrs. E. E. Hill and G. Aboyte.

Per *Sungkiang*, from Manila, Miss G. Gusta, Mrs. P. Lama, Messrs. A. B. Loud, S. Gordon, A. E. Norris, W. B. Jones, H. T. Swain, S. H. Rockwell, T. H. Aly and Sr. Da Gamba.

Per *Iyo Maru*, from Seattle, &c., for Hongkong, Dr. and Mrs. McCandless and two children, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Mears, Mrs. Black, Miss G. Black, Mrs. Johnson, Miss Butler, Rev. Patton, Dr. Bradlock, Messrs. Alan Rup. M. Yoshida, N. Takamiya, J. Brown, J. Jones and E. B. Moonsoon.

Per *Hangsang*, from Shanghai, Professor Davis and Mr. Lancaster.

Per *Haitan*, from Foochow, &c., Messrs. J. D. Commaile, F. C. Bowers, Payne, S. Haesloop, P. McLaughlin, D. Barkworth and A. M. Rozas and two children.

Per *Wuhu*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Sidford.

Per *Kaifong*, from Hongkong, for Uioilo, etc., Hon. H. C. and Mrs. Bates, Mr. and Mrs. Kuppeler and family, Mrs. Allen, Miss Cunningham, Messrs. J. Kolonovich, L. Dyson and Col. Cotton.

Per *Bengal*, from Hongkong, from Bombay, Messrs. Agostin Noronha, Peter de Souza and M. Noronha; from London, Misses Braude, and MacArthur, Rev. T. Robinson, Messrs. R. H. Phillips and D. G. Gilmour; from Marseilles, Miss M. Doyle, and Mr. F. B. L. Bowley; from Brindisi, Lieut. G. Mayall and Mr. W. K. Hodgson; from Penang, Mr. S. Banvard; from Singapore, Messrs. Woodward, S. C. Haleem and Si dar Khan; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Pullan; from London, Rev. and Mrs. Brotheroe, Mrs. Bell, Misses Shillington and Willis, Nurses Gittens and Velvin, Revs. H. B. Rattenbury and J. S. Helps; from Port Said, Doctors A. N. Parsons and Tintoff.

Per *Whampoa*, from Chinkiang, Mr. Henderson.

Per *Agamemnon*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. G. Grimbale and family.

Per *Rohilla Maru*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Bissell, Messrs. C. Finley, S. Ochi and H. Tsuda.

Per *Tirol*, from Shanghai, Mr. A. Thaler.

Per *Kwang Tai*, from Shanghai, Capt. W. E. Pve, Lieut. F. H. Armstrong, Messrs. George and Yzdebstey.

Per *Gera*, from Yokohama, Mrs. Becker, Miss Gray, Mr. and Miss Jacobs, Dr. Baelz, Baron Corvisart, Freiherr v. Ritter, Lieut.-Col. Grandprey, Messrs. Kovarady, Chitady, Botelho, Surchamps and Brodersen.

Per *Kasuga Maru*, from Yokohama, &c., for Hongkong, Mrs. D. N. Silas and child, Mr. and Mrs. R. Harper, Master Harper, Mr. and Mrs. Kawaguchi, Mrs. H. Yamamoto, Mrs. I. Kitada and three children, Miss Sato Nishi, Messrs. T. Inouye and T. Morita; for Manila, Mrs. H. K. Bailey, Miss Bailey, Mrs. P. S. Momers, Mrs. and Miss E. E. Guazon, Miss M. Guazon, Mrs. M. Kita, Mrs. Y. Urakawa and Mr. Frank Lee; for Brisbane, Mr. J. F. Dyer; for Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Lassitter, Mr. and Master Lassitter, Mr. and Mrs. McRobert, Mr. and Mrs. Morris Hunt, Mrs. and Master Isaacs, Miss Sauwer, Messrs. A. Forsyth and Z. Seki; for Melbourne, Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Carnegie and two children and Miss Shearer.

Per *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Horsey, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. R. Passmore, Misses F. and C. Passmore, Mrs. G. Keine, Mr. and Mrs. H. Samson and two children, Messrs. J. Burns, W. Runyon, C. Hadden, H. Strong, H. Ducau, Stuehr, F. G. Burh and J. W. Price; from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. F. Yanes, Mrs. Mumford and child, Mrs. Price and child, Dr. and Mrs. Andrew Hall, Mrs. E. T. Brown, Paymaster L. Hunt, U.S.N., Asst.-Paymaster Colby, Messrs. Elizalde and A. Fix; from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton, Dr. and Mrs. B. L. Ringer, Mr. and Mrs. Yates, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Gongar, Prof. and Mrs. E. H. Sharp, Mrs. M. Croach, Mrs. A. Harris, Misses Johnston and J. F. Potts, Messrs. J. M. Shields, C. Russell, L. de Ridder, L. A. Northern and C. C. G. Roberts; from Nagasaki, Mr. Max Lish; from Shanghai, Mrs. H. G. Sherbrooke, Mrs. Stokes, Mrs. G. H. Dann, Mrs. Ellis Kadoorie, Major Hamilton, Capt. W. Mead, Misses Ward and Gertsch, Messrs. C. S. Leavenworth, E. D. Haskell, W. A. Railton, A. V. Apear, R. Stuges, R. H. Goddard, J. Coalou, and R. C. Groves.

Per *Lrisang*, from Singapore, Messrs. K. G. Taan, J. A. Kelly, G. F. Taylor and H. A. Geisendarfar.

Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Mr. and Mrs. Turner, M. S. C. Parkson, Miss Rangel, Messrs. A. E. Marshall, Jamieson, Stelling, C. Wessel and child and Mr. F. d'Almeida.

Per *Kumano Maru*, from Australia, &c., for Hongkong, Mrs. S. C. Ainsworth, Mrs. J. Prentice, Miss E. Prentice, Mr. and Mrs. W. Jackson and child, Misses Linwood, Mormion, Worts, Gertrude Emegildo and Mercedes del Rosario, Rev. Andrew Reid, Messrs. G. Compere, P. Aboytiz, W. D. Graham, G. Medina and W. Delmer; for Yokohama, Messrs. H. Percival, J. Wilshire, R. C. Wilshire, Weller, Schroede, J. Loyzaga, J. M. Knapp, N. Igara-

shi, Y. Sato, Dr. T. Takahashi and Mrs. G. Goli.

Per *Bayern*, from Hongkong, from Hamburg, Mrs. P. Reimers and child, Miss Katho Barry, and Mr. Paul Stammel; from Southampton, Mrs. Mitchell and children, Dr. and Mrs. J. Renni and child, Misses Rennie, Boaz May Patterson and Marion Patterson; from Genoa, Mrs. Emilie Bonnal, Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm L. uschner, Misses M. Darley, Frieda Homeyer, Shire and A. C. Wedderspoon and Mr. A. Rombach; for Shanghai, from Hamburg, Mr. and Mrs. Beyer, Mrs. Ella Sommerlade, Mrs. Thoma and children, Miss Bertha Dupke and Mr. F. E. Schran; from Antwerp, Messrs. Samuels and Savy; from Southampton, Mr. and Mrs. Hudson Broomhall and family, Rev. and Mrs. D. A. Cullum and children, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Denham, Rev. and Mrs. A. E. Evans and children, Rev. and Mrs. Warren and child, Misses A. Fuller, A. Gilbert, Gillespie, M. Menzies, G. S. D. Mitchell, Quelch, Rickett and M. Usher, Messrs. H. S. Consterdine, A. H. Waddle and J. Smith and children; from Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. Haus Braudeis, Mrs. H. F. Merrill and child, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Morse, Miss Janet Morse, Mrs. and Miss von Meyeren, Mr. and Mrs. Riva and child, Miss F. Schneider, Messrs. Gustav Armin, Gaetano Bernasconi, Beyrieiss, Dick, Kuenzle, H. Lehmann, Henri Maitre, Graf Platen, Raschdorf and Max Zeller; from Naples, Mr. P. Offermann; for Nagasaki, from Genoa, Miss F. M. Freeth; for Kobe, from Hamburg, Mr. Paul Bauer; from Southampton, Miss J. C. Gillespy; for Yokohama, from Southampton, Miss K. M. Peacock, Dr. Clarence Louis Heller, and Mr. B. Okasaki; from Genoa, Messrs. B. Jenny, Paul Kalckbrenner and Weitzmann; from Naples, Mr. and Mrs. d'Anehan; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Cronin, Mrs. Gross, and Mr. Jos. Ely.

Per *Haiphong*, from Haiphong, Mrs. Lefebure Chodzko.

Per *Thales*, from Swatow, Rev. G. Polugson, Messrs. E. Little and A. Mohr.

Per *America Maru*, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. Dennison, Mrs. L. A. Street and son, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Rupert, Mrs. Hyde, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Heins, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Hall, Mrs. Rodgers, Misses K. Kickham, L. Hargear, P. Sarloos, M. J. Watts, Davis and M. B. Lewis, Dr. Keckeler, Messrs. Helen Arprev, A. E. Kaiser, F. O'Brien, W. A. Towler, H. G. Madder, A. G. Wood, C. F. Davis, H. Dennison, H. M. Garlington, D. S. Kanio, Earl, E. H. Conners, Henry Bloom, C. Furuta, G. A. Ballard, W. J. G. Perfect, R. Piercy, Cruickshank and Harman.

Per *Wakasa Maru*, from Japan, for Hongkong, Mrs. Wilson and child, Mrs. Guest and infant, Mrs. W. C. Crose and child, Mrs. F. Evans, Mrs. Andrews and infant, Messrs. Pascual Ladesman, Kajikawa, I. Kamiya, L. Gambata and A. F. Iliano; for Singapore, Messrs. A. G. McDonald, W. B. Rowland, Y. Inouye, T. Yoshizumi, R. Ishida, S. Ohta and W. C. Ramsey; for Penang, Mr. W. B. Blackmore; for Marseilles, Messrs. J. W. Crowe, Davis and Major Kawai; for London, Mr. and Mrs. W. Le Couteur, Mrs. A. L. Rock, Messrs. U. Koga, Haffner, A. Rogers, D. Hutton, Geo. Graham, Handyside, Blomet, Tophouse and Middleton; for Antwerp, Mr. S. Mikuriya.

DEPARTED.

Per *Loongsang*, for Manila, Miss C. Macovitch, Messrs. J. F. Young, W. Campbell, J. Peak, D. M. Fleming, Donald W. Riley, L. W. Manning, V. C. Pachett, B. R. Huntington and R. Ellerton.

Per *Australia*, for Australia, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Araujo, Mr. and Mrs. Rutter, Mr. and Mrs. Geard, Mrs. G. H. Powell, Mrs. Miss and Master Playfair, Mrs. Butchart and child, Mr. and Mrs. Forbes, Misses Clothier and Kennedy, Major Rodri, ues, Capts. Pinheiro and Gousalves, Lieut. Abreu, Messrs. J. Bento, J. A. Parsons, C. H. Baynes and Cragg.

Per *Masilia*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr. and Misses Smart (3), Messrs. G. C. Haddon, Toby, E. Manasseh and A. A. Escoffoly; for London, Sub-Lieut. Burrows, Lieut. A. S. Blackwood, Misses C. M. and S. Allum, Messrs. C. Brothwell and D. Mackenzie; from Shanghai, for Singapore, Mrs. C. H. Jones and Mr. A. S. Leresche; for Bombay, Asst.-Surgeon Callaghan, Sergts. Berry, Boyle and Baxter,

Ptes. Edris and Ratcliffe; for London, Misses Kokewich, Wood and Onyon.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. A. Kellmann, Mr. and Mrs. A. Hughes, Mrs. Suffert, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Taylor, Mrs. M. Doyie, Misses F. and I. Vernon, Mrs. Masuda, Misses I. Adachi, U. Tominaga, T. Matsumoto, K. Izawa, K. Nojima, Y. Stone, S. Nagamatsu, T. Miyaki, S. Fujimura and F. Nakamura, Messrs. W. F. McLaughter, L. E. Schmds, H. Z. Jeffries, B. Bhiceji, D. Matsui, K. Nakashima, H. Tanaka, Z. Yesaki, K. Miyaji and S. Wada.

Per *Gera*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr. R. D. Kimmond; for Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Cady Staley, Messrs. G. Douglas, Ashbury, Thomas Priestman and B. A. Gould; for Naples, Messrs. H. T. Swain and L. H. Kockwell; for Genoa, Dr. Kerr, Messrs. J. Ezekiel and J. de Commaile; for Antwerp, Mr. S. L. Jensen; for Bremen, Mr. N. Pettersen.

Per *Zifiro*, for Manila, Mrs. A. E. Graham, Mrs. M. Moran, Mr. C. E. Le Munyon, Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Samson, Mrs. Carro, Misses Ward, Gertsch, L. and S. Samson and A. M. Crnz, Messrs. Basil Taylor, H. C. Strong, J. Coulon, D. Clark and Chas. Dellone.

Per *Rohilla Maru*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Town-end, Mr. and Mrs. Kinney, Mr. and Mrs. Yanes, Mr. and Mrs. P. de la Cruz, Misses Anna Kvitca, Magie Shaira, Gusta, S. Nagao and K. Honda, Messrs. G. Eskridge, F. Elizalle, S. Gans, F. C. Hubbell, McCollough, Hilbert, T. Inouye, Ed. A. Marshall, Vicents Santos, Ulejandelo Escolanto, Victorius Saludo and Robert Macanaga.

Per *Kasuga Maru*, for Manila, Mrs. H. K. Bailey, Miss Bailey, Mrs., Miss and Master Guason, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. Passmore, Misses F. and C. Passmore, Mrs. Price and child, Mrs. D. I. Brown, Mrs. Noyo Kita, Mrs. Y. Urakawa, Paymasters L. Hunt, U.S.N., and Colby, U.S.N., Capt. A. H. Russell, U.S.N., Messrs. Frank Lee, Max S. Enitpiel, Carl Weisersberg, Nukaishima and K. Okuno; for Auckland, Mr. Walter E. Jackman; for Brisbane, Mrs. Jephson, Messrs. J. F. Dyer and Ambrose De Ath; for Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Mears, Mr. and Mrs. M. Hunt, Mrs. C. S. Bomers, Mr. and Mrs. R. Harper, Master Harper, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Lasseter, Mr. and Master Lasseter, Mr. and Mrs. Robert, Mrs. Isaacs, Mrs. Walter McArthur, Mrs. and Miss M. Rongy, Miss Souwer, Messrs. A. Forsyth, S. Seki, A. Isaacs and Shields; for Melbourne, Mrs. and Miss Black, Mr. and Mrs. G. Carnegie and two children.

Per *Bayern*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mrs. E. Maiwald, Messrs. J. Fradiaz, F. Bouino, D. Marquetie, Souderjee, Domemgo Scoccia, Antonio Scoccia and Omeysbanker; for Yokohama, Mr. Schneremburg.

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